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THE MILITARY SITUATION.

WHILE grand operations over all the accustomed theatres of war have for some time been in abeyance, an important movement suddenly discloses itself on the line of the Rio Grande, where General BANKS has landed with a powerful expeditionary force on the Texan frontier, for the triple object of crushing out rebellion in that region, seizing one of the main *entre-pôts* of contraband commerce, and watching the movements of a foreign power in Mexico.

The expedition was fitted out at New Orleans, under the command of Major-General DANA, General BANKS and staff accompanying it. After a stormy passage, the troops were on the 4th inst. safely transferred from the transports, and landed on the Texan shore of the Rio Grande. Upon seeing our troops landing, the enemy destroyed the Government works at Fort Brown, and the town of Brownsville was set on fire by the rebel cavalry. The Union men in the town resisted them, and a bloody street fight ensued between the two factions, while the houses were burning around them. The Fifteenth Marine regiment was ordered up to Brownsville to support the Unionists, and the rebels were routed. General MAGRUDER, who is in command of the rebel forces in Texas, is said to be now at Houston. He has only two thousand troops (cavalry) there, the remainder of his army being scattered about at various places, chiefly at Galveston and Sabine Pass.

Of course the main immediate practical purpose of this expedition is the interception and destruction of the immense contraband trade carried on between Europe and the Southern States by way of Mexico; and in this respect its importance can hardly be overestimated. When our fleet arrived off the coast, no less than twenty-seven blockade runners were in sight in the Mexican waters! Indeed, since the sealing up of Charleston and the stricter watch at Wilmington—hitherto the two chief inlets of rebel trade—Matamoras bade fair to become the great *entre-pôt* of contraband commerce. The estoppel to any purpose of this kind which the present expedition will furnish is of the highest value, and its bearing on the general course of the war cannot fail to be very great.

THE situation at Chattanooga, so far as published accounts show, up to the hour of writing, remains unchanged, although we had through private channels reports of a battle actually in progress on Wednesday, 18th. All that had disturbed the monotony of life at Chattanooga was the occasional shelling of our camps by the rebels from their position on Lookout Mountain; for though the enemy was, by the movement of General HOOKER's force, drawn from the possession of Lookout Valley and the abutment of the mountain, he yet holds points within rifle-range of our camps. This, however, does not seem to trouble our troops much, and no casualties are reported.

The movements of the rebels at the time of our last writing seemed to indicate a determination on their part to snatch back the prize which General THOMAS seized from them in the possession of Lookout Valley,

the south bank of the Tennessee, and the consequent command of railroad and river communication with Bridgeport; but the tenacious hold which General HOOKER has of the ground seems to have disinclined them to make the attempt.

General SHERMAN's column, which we left last week still on the march, the advance having only reached Florence, has at length made a junction with General GRANT. This force will form the right wing of Gen. GRANT's grand front of operations. The addition of General SHERMAN's corps will form a powerful reinforcement to General GRANT's command; and we are not to count as the least part of this reinforcement the skill and energy which General SHERMAN—acknowledged one of the ablest military heads in the Army—will bring with him.

But while General GRANT has been augmenting his army, the rebels have not been idle. It is said that the Western and Atlantic Railroad is being worked to its full capacity in bringing reinforcements to BRAGG, and that the road from Chickamauga Station for eight miles south is lined with rebel camps.

In East Tennessee the enemy still continues his menacing attitude towards General BURNSIDE. The latest information from that quarter is to the effect that LONGSTREET is moving on our position at Knoxville, and some skirmishing is reported to have occurred between BURNSIDE's outposts and the advance of LONGSTREET's column. We last week recorded the capture of the garrisons of two of General BURNSIDE's outposts near Rogersville, about fifty miles from Knoxville, on the 6th inst. The points at which the later encounters took place are not stated, so that we have no means of judging the precise nature of the enemy's intentions. But whatever may be the rebel plan, it is entirely certain that they have set out with the intention of crossing the Tennessee, and compelling BURNSIDE to fight at disadvantage, or fall back so as to uncover Knoxville and an important part of East Tennessee.

WE still remain in an attitude of expectancy towards the Army of the Potomac, there being as yet no further advance to record. The railroad is now completed down to Rappahannock Station. The bridge across the Rappahannock is also completed now, and thence the railroad is undisturbed to Culpepper and the Rapidan. This was one of the prime desiderata for which General MEADE was waiting; and there is good reason to hope that we shall in our next issue have stirring deeds to chronicle. The main Confederate force lies between the Rapidan and Orange Court House—the Rapidan being strongly guarded. On Sunday 15th inst., KILPATRICK's cavalry force was sent forward to the river with a view to develop the real strength of the enemy. In advancing it was fired upon from the heights on the south bank of the river, and on retiring was followed by a small force of rebels, who had the temerity to cross the river at Raccoon Ford, but were immediately driven back. Our loss was very slight, but four or five being slightly wounded. The rebel defences on the South side of the Rapidan are of a very formidable character, being situated on ridges from thirty to a hundred and fifty feet above the river level, and elevated considerably above the northern bank, where the ground falls into an extended plain, presenting on our side every possible disadvantage for strategic movements.

General LEE has not left for the Southwest as was recently reported, though it is believed that a portion of his troops has been sent off, leaving only portions of two corps on the Rapidan. From rebel sources it

is learned that the enemy has little or no apprehension of being assaulted in his present position, and with winter approaching feels secure in his quarters. Huts are in procession of erection, and the indications are that LEE proposes to winter behind his intrenchments on the Rapidan. *Nous verrons!*

THE great drama of the siege of Charleston as yet stands still, while the episode of the bombardment of Fort Sumter goes on by day and by night. A Charleston telegram to the Richmond press states, that from Thursday morning till Saturday evening last, 1543 mortar shells and rifle shots were fired at the fort. The telegram adds: "The enemy's fire has ceased to be of any injury to the fort"—a remark which is probably true, as the ruined structure must be by this time beyond any further damage. We have still the best reason to hold on to the good hope we some time ago expressed, as to the result of the coming combined land and naval attack.

A PRIVATE letter, received from Captain SZBAD, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Gettysburgh, and is now confined in Richmond, gives the following touching personal testimony with reference to the treatment of the Union captives: "If the Government wait much longer, very few will remain for exchange; cold, hunger and creeping filth—these are our daily solace!" Captain SZBAD is a brave Hungarian, well-known to us, and to military readers by his "Theory of War." He joined the service many months ago, and has served without pay or commission. His distressing testimony may be relied on.

THE dedication of the Soldiers' Cemetery at Gettysburgh, Pa., took place on Thursday, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators. President LINCOLN, Secretary SEWARD, and many gentlemen of distinction in civil and military life took part, and Hon. EDWARD EVERETT delivered an address. We go to press too early to give any particular account of the ceremonies this week.

A BATTLE IN TENNESSEE.

THE following dispatch is received just as we go to press:

KNOXVILLE, November 19, 1863.

The enemy began skirmishing from their position on Kingston road atten this morning. Our advance alone, composed wholly of mounted infantry and cavalry, commanded the position, under General SANDERS, and each man fought like a veteran.

At noon the enemy opened with artillery at short range, their battery protected by a large house.

BENJAMIN's battery was the only one which replied, occupying the chief fortifications half a mile in front of and to the right of the town.

A desperate charge was made by the enemy about 3 p. m. Our men were protected by rail barricades on the crest of the hill.

General SANDERS was severely wounded, and was borne from the field.

We yielded the position, and fell back about a third of a mile to a stronger one.

We have lost about one hundred, one quarter of whom were killed.

The enemy have completely invested the place, but General BURNSIDE will defend it to the last man, and it is believed successfully.

The troops are in the best spirits.

Every important point is fortified, and confidence prevails that we shall whip the enemy out.

FORTIFICATION—LAND DEFENCES—TRACE.

The trace of a work depends upon the ground it occupies, the ground it is to command, and the force available for it. There is, therefore, little virtue in the regular forms laid down in works upon this subject. A redan, or work with two faces or sides, or a lunette, or work with four faces, has no advantages *per se* over works with one, three, five or more faces, which writers have neither described nor named. There is no necessity that any two faces of a work should have the same size; they do not depend upon one another in any way, nor can they be influenced by the same considerations. The great rule is to proportion the amount of fire which can be brought to bear upon any point, to the facilities for attack or approach. As a rule, this is to be done, by placing the largest and best-armed faces at right angles, or nearly so, to the directions most favorable for assault, so as to bring the fire of those faces directly against the attacking part. Frequently, however, the greatest amount of fire can be accumulated in front of a salient. The assumption that the fire from the face of a work is necessarily at right angles to it, is only partially true. In infantry tactics every regiment is taught oblique firing. Artillery is frequently directed 30° or more from the perpendicular. The fire from the faces of a parapet will be at right angles to those faces rather than oblique to them, provided the ground to be defended by the right-angled fire is as strongly occupied by the attacking force as that to be defended by the oblique fire. This is more true of musketry than of artillery fire, and is more true the nearer the enemy is to the work. The rule limiting the salient of a work to angles over 60°, allows too much margin. A salient of less than 60° is absolutely inadmissible; one between 60° and 90° is very objectionable; between 90° and 120° there is still a small sector deprived of fire which requires to be commanded from some point other than the salient; above 120° the oblique fire may be partially relied upon.

The trace of a work depends upon the ground it occupies, because this limits its possible extent. Works are generally placed upon high ground, the summits of either first or secondary slopes. A work should not be so placed on the slope of a hill that the ground included within it is seen from without; that is—all the ground included within the limits of a work must be covered from all points which can be occupied by the enemy. Neither must a work be so far placed back from the crest of a hill that any portion of the slope shall be hidden from the work. The result of such a construction would be to furnish a rallying point for the enemy from which to make successive assaults. This was illustrated in the defence of Kars by the Turks against the Russians, when an unseen piece of ground within 150 yards of the works, commanded by Major TESDALE, afforded the Russians an opportunity of rallying for seven successive assaults.* The combination of these two conditions is difficult, and will, in broken ground, be frequently impossible without auxiliary defences. These latter should always be so placed as to be completely commanded and controlled from the main work.

The trace of a work depends upon the ground it commands, as upon that depends the work it has to do. For distant or artillery defence the same rules apply to the position of artillery in works as to field artillery. Too much elevation is bad. An elevation above the object aimed at of 1 in 15 is as steep as is advisable. The best position for artillery is about 1 in 100 above the object aimed at. For near defence, the more grazing the fire, the better. The ground near the work should be covered with a cross fire wherever it is possible. Tenalled lines, with reentrants of 120°, are useful on ground demanding no special trace.

The trace of a work depends upon the garrison available for it, for a work inadequately manned is capable of only a very feeble resistance. Yet it is seldom necessary to count upon a work being defended vigorously at all points, and a very inadequate force may, by manoeuvring, hold a very long line. The way in which WILCOX's brigade manoeuvred to hold the heights of Fredericksburgh against SEDGWICK's corps, at the time of the battle of Chancellorsville, was a very good illustration of this point.

There are two leading classes of works which must be clearly distinguished. Those of which the garrison and armament form an integral part, intended to be captured when the work is taken, and those from which the garrison and armament are intended under certain contingencies to be retired.

In positions hastily fortified, in which to accept battle, there will rarely be any work the garrison of which should be considered as an integral part of the work. There may, however, be some key position which, if held, may, even when entirely disconnected from the rest of the defending force, so cripple the assailants, limit their movements and facilitate reprisals and the retaking of the surrounding ground, that it might be worth while to risk a small garrison. Such instances would, however, be very rare. Works

*The hollow ground between Fredericksburgh and the heights in its rear afforded cover for the formation of five or six successive assaults.

not intended to be held in this way should not be closed at the gorge. Field artillery should never be placed in closed works unless the garrison of the works is intended to stand or fall with it. In the work it is in the same relative position as in front of a defile. To the neglect of this simple principle the loss of many of the guns at Fair Oaks is attributable. Field artillery should never be placed in an open work without cover being provided for the horses and all the material of the battery. Otherwise these will be destroyed and the battery cannot be retired at the right moment.

It is only by a proper distinction between these two classes of works and their relative positions, that the large extent of ground which it is necessary now to occupy by works can be held by garrisons which will not materially weaken the manoeuvring armies. This distinction cannot be made without it is distinctly perceived and borne in mind that there is no necessary connection between those portions of a work, or those works in the defence of an extended position, designed for the artillery or distant defence, and those intended for the near defence and for assault.

To fortify a position:—Select the positions for the artillery precisely on the same principles and according to the same rules which guide a field artillery officer in placing his batteries. Determine the number of guns available for each position, the directions in which they are required to fire, and the number required in each direction.

Ascertain the minimum infantry guard for the artillery which the local position permits. Distribute these as the artillery was distributed in the directions and in proportion to the probabilities of attack. These data give the position and length of the leading faces of the work and its size.

The work should then be constructed with all the perfection which time affords, the maximum of cover given to the guns, good traverses, good magazines, good bomb-proof cover constructed, and the approach rendered as difficult as it can be by every possible accumulation of obstacles.

The garrisons of such a work as this forms an integral portion of the work, to live in it, to fall with it, never to abandon it so long as one ounce of powder, one ration remains. They should understand that in this is their glory.

But it must be forcibly borne in mind, that every man belonging to such a garrison is non-effective for all other purposes, and that if 500 men, for example, are available for the defence of a work which forms part of a general position, and cannot, therefore, be isolated, a better defence will be made if the work be constructed for 200 men, and the remaining 300, after being driven from the advanced rifle pits, rally in rear of the work, ready to charge round the edge of the counterscarp, attacking the assailants in flank at the moment when they are in the greatest disorder from the fire of the defenders and their own advance, than if the whole 500 were placed in the work increased so as to give full scope for their judicious employment.

There may occasionally arise, from the necessity of placing the artillery on secondary slopes, positions which command the artillery. These must be held, like the artillery positions. They will rarely require guns or large garrisons, and frequently not even cover against artillery.

The distant defence being thus fixed, the near defence requires an entirely different class of work, extensive and slight in profile where the former was very limited, but elaborate in defensive resources. To skirt the crests of hills, see into every slope, enfilade every ravine where reserves might be concealed or through which assaulting columns should advance. To command in front and flank every possible approach, giving at the same time every facility for retaliatory movements, limiting the front of the enemy and breaking his formation by obstacles from 300 to 800 yards distant, prepared at the same time to meet his near approach thus broken not only by the steady fire from the works, but by sorties and the much more effective steel. This part of the work requires but little labor and little constructive nicety. It requires, however, great judgment in the construction of sites.

The above principles apply equally to permanent and field or temporary fortifications. The essential difference between them is in the substitution of brick or masonry constructions in the bomb-proof cover for men and material, in the nature of the obstacles against assault, and in the preparation of the ground for near defence. These points will be considered in the next paper.

THE MONITORS IN CHARLESTON HARBOR.—A Port Royal correspondent of the Baltimore *American*, writing under date of November 6th, says:—

The Monitor *Montauk*, which has been at Port Royal repairing, arrived here on Wednesday, and has already been trying her guns on Sumter. The *Montauk* is a clipper among the Monitors, and moves about the harbor at the rate of eight miles an hour. The *Passaic* has also returned from Port Royal, where she has received a thorough overhauling, and our effective strength in Monitors now here gives promise that the long deferred attack will soon commence.

It was feared that the *Passaic* would have to be sent

North to remedy some derangement of machinery that rendered it impossible to turn her turret, which was beyond the ingenuity of the machinists at Port Royal to remedy. Fortunately the Navy Department has recently sent here one of Mr. Ericsson's assistants, Mr. GRIFFIN, a persevering and energetic gentleman, as Superintendent of Iron-Clads, who declared that the turret must turn, and he made it turn. There is a good deal in working with a will and a determination to succeed.

Mr. GRIFFIN, since his arrival here, has also done a most important work in improving the speed of the Monitors. An iron vessel, after lying in the waters of the Southern coast a few months, has her sides and bottom covered with marine grass, barnacles, &c., that greatly impeded her speed. I have seen the grass fully three inches long on the sides of the Monitors. The consequence was their speed was reduced to about three knots an hour, and the facility in steering greatly lessened. Attempts were made to have them cleaned by divers, but did not succeed very well. Mr. GRIFFIN, on learning the difficulties, suggested that the boats should be beached at Port Royal at high water and their bottoms scraped and painted. Doubts were entertained by some whether the Monitors would not be strained, but Mr. GRIFFIN, with Admiral DAHLGREN's authority, made an experiment with the *Passaic*. It proved entirely successful; the vessel was not strained or injured in the least. The result was a surprise and gratification to everybody. The *Passaic*, on arriving off Charleston Bar, cast loose from her tow, and came in, nearly keeping way with the *Commodore Dupont*, a fast steamer, formerly the English blockade runner *Anglia*. The next day the *Passaic* went on a trial trip across the harbor, and made us all stare by showing a speed of seven knots an hour. Nearly all the Monitors have now been subjected to this cleaning process, and are now good for an average speed of six knots an hour. This result is equal to a reinforcement of three Monitors, and will abundantly pay for the delay it has caused.

VOLUNTEERS AND VETERANS.

YEARS ago, when our army was a little band of ten or twelve thousand men, and the term of enlistment was for five years, after a soldier had been nine months or a year in the service, he ceased to be considered a recruit; and, being attached to a company, became, if not a veteran, at least in more senses than one, an "old soldier." At that time the English term of service was twenty-one years, and although for special good conduct a man might get his discharge after twelve years, most of their soldiers served the whole term, and then—the rest of their lives. With this striking contrast of the two services, the English officers on the frontier used to call all our men recruits, and laugh at our idea of old soldiers, regarding none of our men as such, except the few who had served two or three terms of enlistment. Their view was not unjust, nor their laughter entirely undeserved. As applied to our army in a time of profound peace, a short service is worth nothing. But it is far otherwise in war. When NAPOLEON applied to the Directory for a command after his brilliant artillery service at Toulon, he was told by BARRAS that he was too young. "One grows rapidly old on the field of battle," was his reply. This aphorism applies to length of service as well as number of years. One battle goes farther to make a volunteer or a conscript a veteran than years of peaceful life. In the latter he learns his lesson; but it is only in the former that he recites it and shows his proficiency. It tests him; it proves the pure gold; it purges the dross away, and it gives him a moral power which nothing else can give. Our volunteers of a score of fights are veterans already. With the men there is, as a general rule, little trouble; the chief difficulty has been with the officers: and such means have been provided that the incompetent are readily weeded out, while the good ones develop with Napoleonic rapidity.

In this connection there are some curious facts to be observed; at least at first sight their philosophy, which is very simple, does not appear. One is, the manner in which conscripts are set up and developed by being placed in veteran ranks. Pride, ready imitation, and hourly encouragement, will explain this. His instructor, *malgré lui*, is at each elbow, before and behind him; he has from the first only to do what he sees others do, and thus he really acts like a veteran some time before he knows the why and wherefore.

Again, it is related of the conscripts in NAPOLEON's Leipzig campaign that they went readily into "the jaws of death," where veterans would have shrunk back, because they knew too well the danger.

We do not intend to make comparisons between volunteers and conscripts, nor indeed do we think there is much difference between the two when fairly in the field. In the necessities of service men soon forget the manner of entering in, and become one in aim and in hope.

When we consider the smallness of our regular army and the valiant and veteran service of our volunteers, we are often led to the conclusion that there should be something like a judicious consolidation of the two. Perhaps our words do not quite convey our idea. We do not mean to take the volunteer service just as it is, and as our extreme need has compelled us to accept it, but to increase the regular army—which must assuredly be done—by taking good volunteer regiments, critically examining the officers, and only retaining and appointing those whose merit in war claims reward. But such changes, in so vital a matter, usually work themselves according to some organic law, and the necessity for that law is now manifesting itself.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN AMBULANCE SYSTEM.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir,—I was glad to see in one of your late numbers (October 31) an extract from the Boston *Medical and Surgical Journal* on the "want of an ambulance system." The matter should be discussed here as well as in Boston, where considerable warmth has been exhibited on both sides of the question, whether we have or have not any ambulance system. I have read and thought somewhat on this subject, and I hope you will allow me to contribute a little towards this discussion by laying before your readers as briefly as possible: 1st, the actual condition, so far as I can learn it, of the *so-called* ambulance system; and 2d, with great deference to the judgment of others more practically acquainted with the matter, let me suggest a few thoughts upon the precise objects such a system should embrace, and one or two practical points in relation thereto.

It has been stated by good authority that "on the 20th of April, 1861, the United States army did not possess a single ambulance carriage this side of the Mississippi."

All this is now changed. Ambulances—four-wheeled and two-wheeled—are shipped in abundance for the Army of the Potomac. I have grave doubts whether as much can be said of any other of our armies, and in some of those more remote from Washington there is a great deficiency in this respect. At Port Hudson there were scarcely any; and similar statements, I fear, may be with truth made about most of the forces in the Mississippi valley still further. I am not aware that "mule ambulances" have ever been widely, if at all, introduced even into the Army of the Potomac. It is evident that well-trained mules, with a litter on each side, would do much better service in a broken, rough country than any other form of carriage. In all the paraphernalia connected with the surgeon's department, I believe that now all the armies are, or ought to be, well supplied.

The drivers of the ambulances have doubtless improved much in the Army of the Potomac since the times when Dr. COOLIDGE, U. S. A., and Drs. STEADMAN and BOWDITCH, gave their terrible experiences of the careless inhumanity and drunkenness of these men. Judging from what I can learn, the class of men described by those physicians is not yet wholly extinct; and it seems evident that when men are chosen for this part of the service without regard to their fitness for the work, carelessness and inhumanity will be likely to occur, though doubtless less often than formerly, in consequence of public attention having been so fully called to the matter.

In the Army of the Potomac, under the various "orders" issued by successive Generals, from General McCLELLAN down to General MEADE, a method, originally devised by the enlightened wisdom of Dr. LETTERMAN, has been carried into operation, which is a vast improvement upon what previously existed in that army. But even this system, though working admirably in certain divisions and regiments, as appears from the testimony of chaplains, division surgeons and sanitary commission subordinates, &c., halts lamentably as a *perfect system*, if we may take the testimony of the Secretary of the Sanitary Commission. Mr. OLIMSTEAD, in his report of the doings of the Commission at Gettysburg, gives us to understand that thousands of our wounded in that fight were brought in ambulances or came on foot, to the terminus of the railroad, and were there "laid down" under a July sun or in a drenching rain without food for "twenty-four hours"! There they lay helpless, and had it not been for the wise foresight of the Commission's agent, who anticipated some such results, they would have laid still longer in suffering. Fortunately, by the energy of this agent, the Sanitary Commission was, at the end of these twenty-four hours, enabled to properly cover and feed the sufferers. The shocking scenes of that day are impressed upon the minds of all who saw them. The bare statement of them sufficiently proves that even in the Army of the Potomac, no *system*, commensurate with the necessities of the case, does at present exist. And this may be said without in the least detracting from the well-earned honors of many of those excellent officers and surgeons, who have, with so much labor, built up a plan which, though quite perfect in many details, fails to grasp the whole *idea* of an Ambulance Department for the armies of our wide-spread Republic.

If now, we examine this department of service in any other of the armies of the Nation, we shall find a still more lamentable deficiency. In North Carolina, I have the highest authority for asserting that the "detained soldiers" have been sent back to their respective regiments, because at present arranged "the ambulance corps is not entirely satisfactory." This was done notwithstanding the commanding General wanted a proper system. I have endeavored for some time past to obtain, through different sources, all published orders establishing ambulance corps in the various armies. I can get none, save from the Potomac. I do not deny that such may have been issued, but I cannot get them. On the contrary, whenever I have seen officers or men coming from the valley of the Mississippi, and who have been on the battle-fields from Vicksburg to New Orleans, I find the one universal assertion—"We had none or very few ambulances and no effective system whatever for carrying off the wounded." At the same time, I got stories of individual suffering of the most distressing character, and which might have been relieved had any proper system prevailed in the department.

Similar results have been arrived at by others who have enquired in the matter. Congress has been asked to do something. Twice a bill for this purpose has passed the House and twice been defeated in the Senate. In vain we ask ourselves what reason the Senators can give for this opposition.

It is proposed in New England to again petition Congress to discuss the question, and by law establish an ambulance department. Whether Congress should itself undertake to pass upon all the details of such a vast scheme is a matter of doubt, but it certainly can direct the President to appoint a commission of his ablest and best officers and surgeons, men who have served in the field and know what is wanted and how the proposed plan should be carried out. This commission should at as early a date as possible report some

scheme, one not merely for the immediate contest now going on, but one capable of being followed in any future war in which we may be engaged. The New England petition seems reasonable. In the war of opinions now rife upon this subject, one party claiming that there is nothing but chaos, while the other equally earnestly asserts that we have a better system than any other on the face of the globe, and that it is quite astonishing that any one having any knowledge on the subject could say otherwise, I know of no umpire so proper to settle all dispute as would be the Congress of the Nation. Let us by all means, therefore, second the petitions now ascending from New England, by similar ones from this metropolis and other parts of loyal States.

On the score of good policy, if for no higher motive, it behoves us to urge Congress to act in the premises. Our men will enlist with more alacrity if they feel sure that everything will be done to ward off suffering. Good policy also dictates to the Government to endeavor to make the army efficient in the field, by preventing the straggling by cowards during the fight, and by early restoring the wounded to the ranks. Nothing will do so well for either of these objects as a well-arranged and efficient Hospital and Ambulance Department.

Allow me before closing to throw out a few hints upon what, in my opinion, ought to be our aim at the present hour. I have already suggested that any system that may be desired ought to be better fitted not only to meet the present emergency, but be capable of being applied to any future war. It should hereafter form a part and parcel of the necessities of war. Humanity has now progressed so far in its views of what may be styled the *amenities* of war, that an Ambulance Department seems *absolutely essential* to any army. Let the clash of arms be as fierce and as brief as possible. But immediately after the necessary carnage, let gentle courtesy and heaven-born mercy press forward upon the blood-stained battle-field, to rescue from all *unnecessary* suffering the wounded and the dying, even if the sufferer be, perchance, a fallen foe. I am well aware that strategic reasons may, when the issue of battle is still undecided, prevent the agents of any ambulance department from thus early visiting the field. But I hope that matters have now progressed sufficiently for them to make one step farther forward, and that, hereafter, it may become a part of the unwritten code of international law that the agents of the ambulance corps of two belligerent armies may become as sacred as *with their perfectly distinctive uniform*, as is the flag of truce. The idea of men lying hopelessly wounded, and for days uncared for, between the lines of two panting, wearied armies, is horrible; and yet it has not been uncommon during this rebellion, or at any past period of time in any country. I have good reason to believe that, on one occasion at least, during this war, one of our own generals made no movement toward saving his wounded heroes till, under a flag of truce from the enemy, a special request was made that our wounded and dead should be removed.

I am quite ready to admit that the suggestion of two ambulance corps meeting in safety on the field may be quite Utopian in the eyes of an old army officer. He may hold that opinion, but still I cling to my faith that mankind has made some progress since it was considered allowable to drag a dead hero's body at the chariot-wheels of the victor; and ere many years, the present neglect of our wounded will be looked back upon with the same horror and disgust that we have when reading the story of the brave patriot HECTOR's fate under the walls of Troy. Now is the hour, and this the God given battle for advances to be made in every department of warfare. We have taught the nations great lessons in the art of war. Our guns are more effective, and throw destruction from a greater distance and with more terrible force than any before in use. Our iron-clads run boldly into dangers such as none of the far-famed fleets of Europe would dare to meet. Our Northern people are sustaining in the holy cause of National Life and of Human Liberty a war of unexampled magnitude. Our armies are immense, and spread over thousands of miles of territory. These armies are composed of some of the noblest and best, most intelligent and most self-sacrificing patriots of the land. Scarcely a family, however rich or poor, that has not its representative in this noble fight. Our power seems every day increasing, and the burdens of war we bear with a more elastic cheerfulness than, heretofore, we have sustained the milder burdens of a bounteous and long-enduring peace. In every pathway of life we seem, as a Nation, to progress, save in this most blessed of all employments, the study to relieve human woe. Necessary agents as we are of untold suffering to thousands of human beings, we seem unwilling, through our regularly-constituted authorities, to do ought to relieve their sufferings. We leave to the kindness and energy of special generals and model officers to do what the Nation, as such, should direct to be done. And this, too, is the fact, while the people, as individuals, are pouring of their boundless wealth and of benevolent action into the treasuries of the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, while also thousands of individuals and the particular States are laboring for this very soldiery that Congress virtually neglects. This state of things seems to me most strange. Congress should be urged to discuss this neglect, and to appoint a commission which should devise a plan thoroughly commensurate with the wants of the hour. Let us ask Congress to demand that henceforth one of the fundamental points of international law shall be that the lives of men engaged in the saving of the wounded shall be inviolate. Let Congress by law make it the duty of a commanding general as soon as possible after a battle, to direct that the wounded shall be sought for, and brought as early as possible to place of succor. In a word, I would have Congress take such action that what is now a mass of individual "orders," may be thoroughly systematized, and made worthy of a great nation.

FROM MISSOURI.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—For some time back military operations in the State of Missouri have been at a stand still. There are now no armed rebels in the State; the late raid of Joe SHELBY did not amount to much. After making a very quick march from Arkansas to Boonville, Mo., without meeting any U. S. troops till he arrived at Boonville, where the Missouri State

Militia and the Enrolled Missouri Militia met him, under the command of Brigadier-General BROWN. SHELBY was here routed, his artillery taken from him, his forces scattered and running in every direction. After General BROWN gave up the chase, it was taken up by General EWING, the Commanding General of the Missouri Border, who followed him to the old battle-field of Pea Ridge, where he abandoned the chase, and General JOHN McNEIL, commanding the district of Southwest Missouri, took it up and ran him across the Boston Mountain in Arkansas. General BLUNT, commanding the District of the Frontier, having been relieved by General MCNEIL, he at once started to assume the command of BLUNT's army; and from last accounts will have some fighting to do, as SHELBY has joined COOPER, so that they now number about 10,000 to our 6,000; but we have all confidence in General MCNEIL, and do not fear the conflict.

Since the order of Major-General SCHOFIELD about the regulation of our steamboats, no more boats have been burned; and we are in hopes that the efficient detective river police, organized by the Provost-Marshall General of this Department, will put an entire stop to this devilish work. We lost in three weeks twelve of our largest first-class steamers.

Last week I sent you the orders in the case of JOHN L. NICHOLS, who was tried on the charge of being a "guerrilla." They found him guilty, ordered him hung, which was approved by the PRESIDENT, and he was duly executed at Jefferson City.

Arkadelphia, late the headquarters of "Old Pap Price" and his "Missouri boys," has been taken by the forces under General STEELE, U. S. A. Old Price has fallen back in good order to Texas, but will not be allowed to remain long quiet, as the cavalry division of this Department, under General J. W. DAVIDSON, will soon again be after him. General DAVIDSON left this city last week for his command at Little Rock, whence he will start on a winter campaign for South Arkansas and Texas. The General is an officer of the U. S. A., and the estimation in which he is held here is shown by the fact that every officer of the cavalry division has signed a petition to the Secretary of War, asking for his promotion to a Major-General, which was also endorsed by Major-General STEELE, Commanding Army of Arkansas.

P.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 12, 1863.

UNION PRISONERS IN RICHMOND.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR:—The deepest concern is everywhere felt for the welfare of our men held as prisoners in Richmond. Authentic accounts place the number at this time confined in Libby Prison and on Belle Isle, officers and men, at about thirteen thousand. That there is intense suffering on the part of these unfortunate soldiers, both from a want of food and clothing, there can be no room to doubt. Partial relief, as far as relates to clothing, we are told, has been afforded by the Government and by the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. This is welcome news, especially to those who have friends incarcerated in these wretched abodes of misery and torture. But clothing alone will afford short relief, if the gnawings of hunger be not also stayed. It may be "*dulce et decorum pro patria mori*," but it is very bitter to be compelled to die by starvation, little by little, in a rebel prison.

But how is this to be remedied? The system of exchange of prisoners seems to have come to an end, at least for the present. No hope whatever exists that any increase in the allowance of rations, as things now stand, will be provided by the rebel authorities. On the contrary, it is reported that the scanty supply of meat heretofore allowed is cut off altogether. Besides, it is plainly manifest that the Confederate Government is taxed to the utmost to secure the necessary supplies for its armies in the field, to say nothing of the wants of the population of Richmond and other cities within the rebel domains. Under these circumstances, worse instead of better conditions may be looked for. When there is a lack of provisions, the rations of hated prisoners will most certainly be reduced, rather than that of rebel armies in the field; or even before general suffering would be allowed to come upon any considerable class of the population.

In this condition of things, can our Government safely undertake the duty of supplying rations to Union prisoners while in the hands of the rebels? What security can there be that such supplies would not be appropriated to feeding rebel armies or starving citizens? A government that, in bad faith, retains prisoners when it is unable to feed them, rather than exchange or parole them, could hardly be trusted at a critical period, or a time of special need or danger—such as might occur at any time by the breaking up of some principal line of communication—to act as an agent in receiving and turning over to prisoners substance needed to prevent the starvation of its own subjects. But even were it practicable to afford the necessary relief by feeding Union prisoners within the rebel lines, it would certainly be a new feature in war to do so. Any power that holds as prisoners men whom it can not keep from starving, acts in a manner as positively cruel and barbarous as though it were to put to the knife its captives, on the plea that it was unable to guard them. Such treatment, then, as clearly cruel and unjustifiable as any direct punishment or torture, certainly may be looked upon in the same light and remedied in the same way.

Retaliation is the only weapon of defence in cases affecting the unjust conduct of an adversary. And there are many who believe retaliation *in kind*, made positive and sufficient, to be the only means whereby the present cruel system practiced towards Union prisoners can be arrested. We can teach the rebel authorities that, if we have the means of supplying rebel prisoners in our hands, according to the usages of war, we have also the means of starving the same when it is necessary to secure compliance to the requirements of civilized war. Measures of this kind, where the cause was well known, and the way to effect a remedy clear, would soon fill the land of rebellion with such wailings that those in power would be compelled to *feed, exchange or parole* the prisoners in their hands. Such retaliation would be similar to that ordered by NAPOLEON to counteract the horrid practice of the English of confining prisoners on *pontons* or prison-ships, during the wars between England and France.

A. J. W.

THE HISTORY OF WEST POINT.*

OUR national institution at West Point has found a historian in the present custodian of the records of the Academy, Captain EDWARD C. BOYNTON, who has with pains-taking industry gathered into one view whatever could be gleaned from our annals, not only in regard to the origin and progress of the Military Academy, but in reference to the previous history of West Point as an important military station during the American Revolution. Attention was first called to the value of West Point, as a military position, by a committee appointed by the Continental Congress of 1775-6 to take an accurate view of the state of the fortifications then in progress of erection on the Hudson River, for the purpose of defeating the attempts of the British Government to control the navigation of that important stream. It was not, however, until after the capture of Forts Montgomery and Clinton, below West Point, by the British forces in the fall of 1777, that an attempt was made to fortify the position. In January 1778, a work was laid out on the northeast angle of the plain at the Point, and a series of water batteries commanding it, was placed on the eastern front by Lieutenant-Colonel RADIERE, Engineer, under the supervision of Major-General PUTNAM. RADIERE was subsequently superseded by Kosciusko as the Engineer, under whom the works were pushed forward with vigor to their completion.

Meanwhile the command at West Point had been transferred from PUTNAM to General McDougall, and from him to General ROBERT HOWE, coming finally into the hands of Major-General BENEDICT ARNOLD, who here conceived that treason which has made his name infamous in American history. At this time the supplies gathered at West Point were very great, and if lost could hardly have been restored by the impoverished country. The works, too, were esteemed "an American Gibraltar," impregnable to an army 20,000 strong. Though yet unfinished, they had cost three years' labor of the army, and drawn \$3,000,000 from the lean treasury of the infant State. Hence the eagerness of the British Commander-in-Chief to avail himself of ARNOLD's defection.

General KNOX was ordered to succeed ARNOLD, and remained in command until his appointment as Secretary of War in March, 1785, when he was succeeded by Major GEORGE FLEMING, who commanded the arsenal, and ranked as an ordnance and military storekeeper, remaining at West Point in charge of the arsenals, of repairs and storage until after the establishment of the Military Academy. During FLEMING's administration the redoubts at West Point were dismantled of their artillery, and a large number of guns were sold for old iron.

The idea of establishing a National Military Academy was brought to the attention of the provincial authorities at the very outset of the struggle for independence; but it was not until the subject of military education had forced itself upon public attention as a necessary consequence of the Nation's experience in that war, that the idea took sufficient root to produce a definite result. It was then seen and declared that the bitter struggle from which they had just emerged might have been sooner brought to a triumphant close had the Army been led by officers accomplished in the art of war. Impressed with this idea, public sentiment was prepared to encourage any effort in the direction of military education; and the sound of the conflict had scarcely closed when the matter was brought to the attention of Congress by WASHINGTON, in response to a request for his views as to a proper peace establishment. Some years later, in 1796, in his annual Presidential Message to Congress, he made a distinct recommendation for the institution of a Military Academy, from which he had heretofore refrained through doubts as to the constitutionality of the measure. Previous to this, Congress, by the act of the 7th of May, 1794, had provided for a corps of artillerists and engineers, to consist of four battalions, to each of which eight cadets were to be attached; and made it the duty of the Secretary of War to procure, at the public expense, the necessary books, instruments and apparatus for the benefit of said corps. In 1798, authority was given to raise an additional regiment of artillerists and engineers, and the number of cadets increased to fifty-six. Thus the "principle upon which the institution now rests was fully 'sanctioned'; a new grade (cadet) was created in the Army, "to which young men were exclusively entitled to be admitted, and means were appropriated for their education in the 'science of war.' In the subsequent act of the 16th of March, 1802, by which the military peace establishment was determined, the artillerists and engineers were formed into two distinct corps. To one regiment of artillery, forty cadets were allowed; and to one corps of engineers, ten cadets; the corps when organized to be stationed at West Point, and to constitute a Military Academy, under the superintendence of the senior engineer officer present.

By subsequent enactments at various periods the curriculum of study was extended to include the present Departments of Engineering, Philosophy, Mathematics, French

and Drawing; a Department of Geography, History and Ethics; a Department of Chemistry, Mineralogy and Geology; of Infantry Tactics, of Practical Engineering, of Artillery and Cavalry, of Spanish, of Ordnance and Gunnery; a Department for Equitation and Cavalry Instruction; and a Department of Fencing and Bayonet Exercise. The number of cadets was also changed, by the addition at one time of one hundred and fifty-six members, and by the limitation at another of the whole number to two hundred and fifty. Rules were also established with respect to the promotion of the cadets, by which their distribution to the different corps in the army and their relative rank were made to depend on their general merit, to be determined by a Board of Examiners, and that no cadet should be presented until he had completed his course of studies, and received his diploma. A uniform was also prescribed, which was substantially the same as that now worn. Provision was also made for a permanent superintendent to have exclusive control of the institution, under the direction of the Secretary of War; no officer of the army of any rank whatever being allowed to exercise command at West Point, unless subordinate to the Superintendent or to the Commandant of the Corps of Engineers, who was made Inspector of the Academy, and from whom the Superintendent was to receive orders, and to whom he was to make all returns and communications relative to the institution. The position of the Superintendent in reference to the other officers of the army was not definitely settled, until after much vexation questioning he was finally, by the act of August 23, 1842, declared to be the Commandant of the Post.

Owing to various circumstances connected with the condition of the country and of the Academy, previous to 1817, admission to it was less an object of ambition than it has since become. The war of 1812, however, revived the public interest in military education, which had gradually died out after the Revolution, and with the return of peace the demand for places in the institution increased to such a degree that for the first time it became necessary to adopt some equitable rule for the admission of candidates. At this time originated the custom of selecting one candidate from each Congressional district, and of allowing great weight to the recommendations of the representatives of the respective districts. This rule, for a long time founded only upon custom, was at length established by law.

Up to this time the Academy may be considered as in its infancy, but little system or regularity appearing in the government of its affairs. Cadets were admitted without examination and without the least regard to their age or qualifications, as required by the law of 1812. They were not regarded as amenable to martial law; no class-rank was established; no register of the classes was published, and in the assignment to positions in the army, they demanded the right to select such corps as they preferred. In this embryonic condition the Military Academy furnished but seventy-one graduates during the first ten years of its existence, and was compared to "a foundling barely existing among the mountains, nurtured at a distance, out of sight of, and almost unknown to, its legitimate parents."

On the 28th of July, 1817, Brevet-Major SYLVANUS THAYER, of the Corps of Engineers, assumed command, as Superintendent of the Military Academy, and from this period dates its efficiency as an educational institution and its reputation for that strict and impartial government which has done so much for the military service of our country. Major THAYER was an early graduate of the Academy, had served with distinction in the war of 1812, and from an intelligent study of the military schools of France, had acquired views concerning the management of such an institution much in advance of those generally entertained. Possessing rare qualifications for his position and blessed with health, devotion to the cause and firmness of purpose, he was enabled, during the sixteen years of his administration, to organize a system for the Academy and perfect its operations.

In 1818, during the administration of the affairs of the War Department by JOHN C. CALHOUN, the custom was adopted of publishing in the Army Register the names of the five cadets in each class most distinguished for attainments and meritorious conduct. In November of this year the question of the amenability of the Corps of Cadets to martial law and trial by garrison courts was brought to a test, by a combination of one hundred and ninety-four of the cadets to defend their supposed rights and establish their title to a free expression of opinion in regard to the management of the Academy. An attempt to try by court-martial the members of the committee representing this cabal, was defeated by a decision of the court, that according to their construction of the Rules and Articles of War, they had no authority to try cadets. This decision was overruled, however, by Hon. WILLIAM WIRT, the Attorney-General, whose opinion was confirmed by President MONROE and Mr. CALHOUN, Secretary of War. By this it was established as supreme law "that the corps at West Point form a part of the land forces of the United States, and have been constitutionally subjected by Congress to the

"Rules and Articles of War, and to trial by courts-martial." Earlier in this year (1818) authority was granted for the employment of cadets as Acting Assistant Professors, "each cadet so detailed to receive ten dollars per month," and have an addition to the number of buttons on his uniform as a mark of "honorable distinction." Practical instruction at this time was given by excursion matches, made on different occasions by the cadets, to Boston, Philadelphia, Princeton, and other points, during which all the duties incident to camp life and field exercise were regularly performed.

Colonel THAYER was relieved as Superintendent by his own request on July 7, 1833, Major R. E. DE RUSSY, of the Corps of Engineers, succeeding him, who was in turn followed by Major RICHARD DELAFIELD, of the Corps of Engineers, September 1st, 1838. After seven year's service he was succeeded by HENRY BREWERTON, ROBERT E. LEE, JONATHAN G. BARNARD, successively, all of the Corps of Engineers; but returned for another term of five years from 1856 to 1861, when he gave place to the renowned PETER G. T. BEAUREGARD, whose brief rule of five days was cut short by an order from the Secretary of War, directing him to transfer back the command to Major DELAFIELD, who was relieved in another month by Major ALEXANDER H. BOWMAN, of the Corps of Engineers, the present Superintendent. During these various administrations the Academy has continued with no special change in its organization and conduct. The course of study has been altered during the time from five years to four, back again to five, and once more to four years, at which it now stands. The monthly pay of the cadets has been increased from twenty-five to thirty dollars, and provision has been made by Congress for an annual Board of Visitors to attend each yearly examination, and report upon the affairs of the Academy. Various additions have also been made to the buildings of the institution.

In answer to the repeated representations of successive boards of visitors, a sergeant and five dragoons were on June 12th, 1839, transferred from Carlisle Barracks, to aid in the introduction of exercises in riding at the academy. At the same time the superintendent was authorized to form a battery of light artillery, and from this period new life was infused into the light artillery and mounted corps of the army, and instruction in both these branches has since continued without interruption.

The space we have given to this running summary of the leading events in the history of our National Military College, leaves us no opportunity in this number of the JOURNAL to follow Captain BOYNTON in his interesting description of the Academy as at present conducted, or to consider the argument in favor of the usefulness of the institution with which he concludes. As he truly says, "in the thoroughness of its course of instruction and discipline, it compares favorably with similar European military academies, and rivals, if it does not excel, the principal scientific institutions of America."

Though lacking somewhat in literary execution, to which it indeed foregoes all claim, this work is a valuable addition to our historical literature, and will furnish to the thousands of graduates from the West Point Academy a most valuable souvenir of their alma mater. It is issued in the finest style by MR. VAN NOSTRAND,—forming an elegant volume of 391 pages, handsomely printed on tinted paper, and illustrated with a variety of wood-cuts and maps, descriptive of the forts and public buildings erected at different times at West Point, and of the localities in its vicinity.

THE SOUTHERN CAVALRY.

WHILE on the retreat to and across the Rapidan, General LEE, on the 9th inst., reviewed the whole cavalry force of his army on the plain near Brandy Station. The force is greatly dilapidated and broken down by its severe service during the past summer and autumn, since the offensive campaign on this side of the Potomac in June and July, down to its defensive struggles on the Rappahannock in October and November. The Confederate authorities have determined to make an energetic effort to re-organize, recruit, and strengthen this arm of the service during the present winter, and bring it into condition to cope with the cavalry in the army of General MEADE; for it is well known on all hands, and is conceded by the enemy, that the cavalry of the North, though inferior in the first year of the war, is now greatly superior in equipment, discipline, fighting qualities and general effectiveness to the Southern cavalry. A rebel writer from the army of General LEE, in recently treating of this subject, says:—

"Wherever the Confederate Cavalry have proved inferior to the cavalry of our enemy, this has been owing to the immense advantages of the latter in point of arms. Many of our horsemen are still miserably armed with double-barreled shot guns, and, until lately, as wretchedly supplied with serviceable saddles; while proper forage, horse shoes and horse-shoe nails have often been unattainable."

A review of the "Case of the Confederate Cavalry" has just been published in the South. It is a document of considerable value, and throws light on the question which may

* History of West Point and its Military Importance during the American Revolution; and the Origin and Progress of the United States Military Academy. By Captain EDWARD C. BOYNTON, A. M., Adjutant of the Military Academy. New York: D. Van Nostrand, 192 Broadway. London: Sampson Low, Son & Co., 1863.

be of service to our military authorities. The writer admits that the Confederate Cavalry is now "viewed with distrust, if not with contempt" in the South, and thinks "it may not be amiss to investigate whence this arises." He attributes it mainly to two causes: "First. The popular idea concerning cavalry is very incorrect. Secondly. Extraordinary difficulties have attended the organization, drill, and equipment of Confederate Cavalry;" which are discussed at length, and we think it worth while to give in full the views expressed.

First. The popular ideas about cavalry are erroneous and exaggerated.

The public makes no distinction between light and heavy cavalry. They make no allowance for the difference between the open plains which are the battle-fields of Europe, and the woods and clearings, in which battles are fought in America.

The cry is, if, in NAPOLEON's age, cavalry could break squares, take batteries, ride over columns of infantry, and, upon almost every field, be used with decisive results, why cannot we do the same? It is forgotten that the troops, so used, were heavy cavalry—picked, both man and horse, for size and weight. That they wore cuirass and helmet of steel, which would resist a musket ball. That they were drilled into the most perfect accuracy of movement. That they were never used for outposts or fatigue duties. That they were never called upon, until a critical moment, and, then, only when the ground was favorable.

In Europe, the cavalry compose from one-fourth to one-sixth of the entire strength of the army. The light cavalry is employed as flankers and partisans, and generally for all service out of the line. Heavy cavalry belongs to the reserve, and is covered, when necessary, in marches, camps, or bivouacs, by light troops or infantry of the line. Modern improvements in ordnance have diminished the importance of heavy cavalry in Europe. It still exists, but is more rarely used. At Balaklava, alone, of the battles of the Crimean and Italian wars, were the cavalry extensively engaged.

There is no heavy cavalry in America. The scarcity of horses and of forage in the Confederacy, forbids the formation and maintenance of troops who require so much nursing and who could be so rarely used. The genius of the people is opposed to the division of labor, by which alone perfection can be attained in military, as in every art. It is preferred to put the same instrument to different uses; though it may be ill-adapted to some of them. We are compelled to have light cavalry. We are unable to have heavy cavalry. We expect our light cavalry to do their legitimate duties thoroughly; and, at the same time, perform the functions of heavy cavalry. Right joyously would our cavalry seize upon any opportunity to realize this expectation; but physical difficulties have prevented it in the past upon any extensive scale, and may forbid it in the future, except upon rare and singular occasions.

Our cavalry in Virginia is, nominally, *one-eighth of the army*. But, from deficient forage and equipments, *one-half of them are always unable to do duty*. If destroyed, they could not be replaced. Our generals cannot afford to hazard them unless certain of instant success, and of results sure to compensate for the injury sustained; or when compelled to sacrifice the cavalry to save the army.

Again. The distances to be traversed by our cavalry are immense; the points to be guarded, widely scattered. Hence, with our scanty numbers it is difficult to concentrate the cavalry, and well-nigh impossible to retain upon the battle-field an imposing force to turn the scale of battle.

More than all, the nature of our country gives advantages to infantry and cripples cavalry.

In the revolutionary war cavalry figures in none of the battles. The Southern campaigns do not disprove this assertion. Nine-tenths of the horsemen were mounted infantry. The number who used the sabre was so inconsiderable that their exploits can only be compared to our partisans and guerrillas. In the Mexican war MAY's charge at Palo Alto stands alone. It was made with sixteen men.

In Europe the forests have nearly disappeared. Most of the land is under cultivation. The fields are only divided by hedges or narrow ditches. Battles are fought with the combatants in full view of each other. In Virginia and Maryland the forests are frequent and impenetrable to cavalry. The fields are small, and everywhere obstructed with rail or stone fences—impassable for horsemen. Almost every battle has been fought in woods or behind fieldworks, upon ground impracticable for cavalry. The second battle of Manassas was an exception; and there a single brigade of our cavalry charged and routed three brigades of Yankee cavalry.

Is it not evident, then, that the popular ideas are incorrect? Has not the public expected the deeds of heavy cavalry from light cavalry, and in a country calculated to paralyze any cavalry?

Secondly. *The organization of the cavalry in the Confederate service has been attended with greater difficulties than any other branch of the army.*

All standing armies are composed, during peace, of from one-third to one-half cavalry. For all governments know that, when war comes, infantry can be increased by levies from the people, but that troopers are like sailors, and cannot be extemporized. When LINCOLN made his first call for 75,000 volunteers, General SCOTT announced that he did not want any cavalry. He said it would take six months to drill each trooper, and six months more to make squadrons and regiments from these troopers.

The Confederate authorities seemed to entertain the same views. They had no standing army from which to obtain cavalry, yet they accepted very few of the numerous companies volunteered them. With singular inconsistency such as were accepted were placed immediately in the field. A few companies received the benefit of a short stay at Ashland. They were exceptions. Probably the expense of forage was considered too great to be incurred for camps of instruction. If so, it was a short-sighted policy.

The Yankees had five regiments of regulars, as a nucleus; to which a sixth was soon added. They were the best troops in the U. S. Army; inured to service by life upon the plains and veterans in Indian warfare. Their volunteer

cavalry was, in material, very inferior to ours. It has, however, the advantage of thorough drill and discipline. While near Washington in 1861 and 1862, McCLELLAN's outposts were composed entirely of infantry. His cavalry was kept at camp of instruction. To this day, no cavalry regiment is sent into the field, until trained for many months in camp.

Drill is infinitely more needed by cavalry than by infantry.

The nature of our country and our battle fields, which creates unusual difficulties for our cavalry, gives, and, from the beginning has given, extraordinary advantages to our infantry. Our infantry is comparatively undrilled, but our rugged country seldom allows the touch of the elbow, so necessary to regulars; and gives free scope to the individuality of freemen, battling for their rights. In the Southern States every man was habituated to the use of fire-arms. To wield a sabre with confidence and effect required months of practice. The effect of a cavalry charge is instantaneous, and not continued. If necessary it must be repeated again and again. But all cavalry, even the best drilled, must rally and re-form to renew the charge. Therein consists the test of cavalry. Every man in the Southern States can ride a horse, but to control a horse, so as to use the sabre with ease, and obey every bugle note as it sounds, requires drill and a great deal of it. The very horses need as much drilling as the men. The mere knowledge of the bugle calls requires months to be learned. Enthusiasm, intelligence and courage compensate the infantry, in our broken country, in a measure, for ignorance of evolutions and tactics; but cannot supply the cavalry with the skill necessary to act together and give solidity to their movements.

But our infantry, though needing it less, have been drilled more than our cavalry.—For them camps of instruction were maintained. Even in the field, circumstances favored them. Battles and marches consume but a portion of a campaign. When stationary, outpost duty cannot fall on all at once. It rarely includes a large number. The rest spend their time drilling. Such was the case at Centreville, in 1861 and '62, and at Winchester, after the Maryland campaign of 1862. But the cavalry live upon the outposts. Their normal condition is that of motion. They never rest, except when broken down, and then the condition of the horses, from sore backs, bare feet, greasy heels, scratches and scanty feed, prevents any practical instruction mounted.

Our cavalry in Virginia entered service miserably armed and equipped.

The Confederate Government had to create resources. Every faculty was overtasked with the work of supplying to the infantry arms and accoutrements. A few companies of cavalry were, by the enterprise of individuals or local authorities, armed efficiently before hostilities commenced. The majority were armed with double-barrelled shot-guns, and crooked, old-fashioned, condemned sabres, generally without temper, and incapable of receiving or retaining an edge or a point.

Their saddles and bridles were private property, such as are commonly used in the country, sufficing for ordinary wear, but unfit for the hard riding and exposure of service. As these wore out, the government was at length able to furnish a scanty supply, but of a character almost worthless. The leather of the bridles and sword belts could generally be torn like paper. The buckles bent like tin. The saddles invariably and constantly galled the horses' backs. After a short use the trees spread, the nails came out, and no conceivable number of blankets under one of them could prevent its torturing any horse it was put upon.

The consequence of this, and the emaciated condition of the horses (who have never received any long forage regularly, and last winter were, in addition, reduced to half rations of corn—six pounds) is, that from one-half to two-thirds of every company has at all times been unfit to take the field. Sick and disabled horses dismount many more men than the inevitable human maladies of a camp. Many a hale man has been confined to camps for weeks, whose horse, otherwise fit for duty, wanted a shoe or the nails to put it on.

In the matter of arms, an improvement has gradually but surely been going on. By incessant skirmishes, our cavalry have supplied themselves from the Yankees. It is now a rare sight to see one of our men who has not a Yankee sabre, revolver and rifle.

Now, when occasion arises, our cavalry can be dismounted and fought as skirmishers on foot—an advantage very great in a broken country. The supply of ammunition, however, is very difficult for arms of such varied calibres, styles and patents.

Most of our troopers have also obtained saddles and bridles from the Yankees. They have often got stores of horse-shoes and nails. But they can't forage from the Yanks or in any other way. Even now it may be safely calculated that one-third of every company is, at all times, unable to take the field. After an unusual effort, as the late Pennsylvania campaign, the number temporarily disabled, is of course largely increased.

HODSON claimed for his guides and light horse in India that they were the only cavalry on record ever organized in the field. Our cavalry in Virginia were like them, organized in the field. Like them they have been taught by experience more than drill. It has been a difficult task. Six months' training at first would have given them what they hardly acquired in two years' service. Let that pass. They have now armed themselves from the spoils of the enemy. They are now able to perform all that is required of them.

The fights at Brandy Station and Upperville have been reported and considered as discreditable to our cavalry. On the contrary, they prove an efficiency that could hardly have been expected of them. The Yankees, taking advantage of the country, always support their cavalry closely with infantry. They did so in these battles. Then was shown that our cavalry could not only charge unflinchingly, but effectively, and rally and re-form; fight both on foot and on horseback; engage cavalry and infantry, and fiercely drive them back or foil them by skillful manoeuvres; charge artillery, capture and hold it; retreat before overwhelming numbers, fighting stubbornly, and, when reinforced, turn upon and rout an apparently victorious army.

Have greater difficulties ever been overcome by any

troops? Do not our cavalry deserve credit in proportion to the difficulties overcome?

In the foregoing remarks the effort has been made to show: First. That the public and the press have expected from the cavalry in Virginia that which from its character and the country, it could never or scarcely have performed. Secondly. That no cavalry in the world has ever been formed, armed and equipped, under the same difficulties, and done as much. Thirdly. That the public is ignorant in a great measure of its heroic performances. Do not these causes explain the prejudice which has arisen?

It remains to ask—"Should the same credit be awarded to the cavalry in Virginia as to the rest of General Lee's army?"

Undoubtedly. Army regulations say, "light cavalry are employed as flankers and partisans, and generally for all service out of the line."

Judge of our cavalry by that definition, and all must admit they have never been surpassed by similar troops in any army. They have guarded the flanks of our army in every battle, and have never suffered it to be surprised, as was Pope at Manassas or Hooker at Chancellorsville. IMMODEN, JENKINS, MOSEBY, rival the deeds of the most famous partisans. STUART's Chickahominy circuit blazed the road for JACKSON's movement in the battles around Richmond. The cavalry outposts, across nearly half the State of Virginia, enabled JACKSON to march from the Shenandoah Valley to Richmond, before the Yankees had a suspicion of his presence. STUART's raid upon Caledon's Station gave General LEE the correspondence, records, documents of Pope—his strength, views, movements, and the plans and orders from Washington.

In a word, our cavalry have, in their appropriate sphere as light cavalry, done their duty thoroughly. Their service has been incessant; their fatigues, hardships and exposure greater than that of the other troops—their casualties numerous. They have given their lives freely, as couriers, as guides, as aids for Generals in great battles; but often in encounters—constantly, almost daily repeated—where the losses were unnoticed, and the dead unknown—though heroic.

This war is desolating Virginia. Encamped armies sweep away woods and fences, and they clear the country. The day will come yet when our cavalry will, upon an open field, crush squares of infantry, and ride over batteries of artillery.

We have intelligence of several changes among rebel officers. General Henry A. Wise has been assigned to the command of the Sixth District of the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida; Brig.-Gen. Mackall has, at his own request, been relieved of duties in Bragg's Department, and has been ordered to report to General Johnston, in Mississippi; General Hardee is assigned to the command of General Polk's corps, and he has relieved General Longstreet, who was stationed on Lookout Mountain; General Hood has so far recovered that his friends are serenading him in Atlanta, where he is staying; Brig.-General A. G. Jenkins is at Lynchburg; Brig.-Gen. Ramseur is at Raleigh, N. C.; Major James E. Gillette, an officer of the 13th Va. Cavalry, died at his residence in Southampton County on 1st, of wounds received at Bristoe Station.

On the 8th inst., four rebels, crew of a picket boat in the Savannah River, took their commanding officer prisoner, and deserted to the Union side. The officer in charge of the party was Acting-Master's-Mate Samuel A. Brockinton, of the Confederate receiving ship *Sampson*. The party were indulging in singing and other convivialities. The commander, feeling the influence of the occasion, relaxed somewhat his professional and official dignity, and took off his coat to join with all the force of his lungs in the chorus. His pistols were in the coat pockets. One of the boatmen, taking possession of these, informed Mr. Brockinton that he was their prisoner. They gave themselves up to Major Wm. Ames, Third Rhode Island Heavy Artillery, in command of the post, near Fort Pulaski.

OFFICIAL and semi-official advices have been received in Washington from San Luis de Potosi, the present Capital of the National Government of Mexico. Active preparations are made for resisting the march of the French army into the interior. COMONFORT has again assumed the chief command, and is at the head of an army from 15,000 to 20,000 strong near Queretaro. General Diaz, with an army of about 3,000, is to operate against the French between the City of Mexico and Vera Cruz.

A CAMP for the collection of such soldiers of the Department of the South as may be recommended for transfer to the Invalid Corps, has been established at Land's End, St. Helena Island, S. C. Captain John H. Gould, 3d R. I. Vol. Artillery, is assigned to the command thereof, under the supervision of the Post Commandant at Hilton Head.

UPON the request of Rear-Admiral S. P. Lee, commanding North Atlantic Blockading Squadron, Sub-Assistants John S. Bradford and R. E. Halter, of the Coast Survey, with Messrs. H. M. De Wees and J. F. McCabe as Aids, have been ordered to report to him, for the duty of making surveys of the Roanoke and Chowan Rivers, N. C.

THE Ordnance Department has advertised for proposals for an aggregate of 71,000 heavy projectiles, consisting of battery shot and shell, to be delivered at the arsenals at Watertown, Mass.; West Troy and Governor's Island, New York; Pittsburgh, Penn.; St. Louis, Mo.; and Washington, D. C.

LATE European advices say that the United States steamer *Kearsarge* had been ordered to leave Cork harbor in twenty-four hours, but the commander refused. She was said to be watching the blockade runners at Cork. The *Alabama* is cruising in the Bay of Bengal.

PRIZE MONEY.

Under the act of Congress, approved March 2, 1863, there are three classes of persons entitled to prize money, namely: First, persons who, at the time of presenting their claims, are on board of United States vessels of war; second, persons who have been discharged from the service; and third, representatives or heirs of officers, marines and seamen, deceased. The Treasury Department is ordered to credit the Navy Department with the amount held for distribution from prizes sold, and the officers, sailors, etc., sharing in the prize money are credited in their accounts with the latter department with the amounts to which they are respectively entitled. With a view of saving the claimants from the piracies of claim agents, they are to receive their respective shares through the paymasters of the vessels to which they may be attached at the time the proceeds of the various prizes are ready for payment by the Fourth Auditor.

To insure a prompt compliance with the law, the paymaster of every vessel of war having officers or men on board entitled to or claiming an award of prize money, is required to transmit to the Fourth Auditor of the Treasury, as early as practicable, a complete list of the officers and men claiming and entitled to prize money for the capture of any vessel by a United States vessel, on which such officer, marine, or sailor may have served at the time of such capture. These lists are quite distinct from those required for the classification and distribution of prize money, and must be approved by the commanding officer. Here the object is to enable the paymaster to pay the claim promptly, while he, the paymaster, conjointly with the commanding officer, authenticates the identity of each claimant. The Report of Prize Cases sent to Congress, March 11, 1863, and furnished to officers in command of United States ships, indicates the name and number of prizes previous to that date; and the transfer rolls from other vessels, with the date of transfer, and the knowledge of each other by the persons transferred, enables the commander and paymaster of each vessel to secure a safe identity. The identity being secured, a list of claimants must be forwarded to the office of the Fourth Auditor, preserving a space following each name for insertion of the amount due to each, as revised by the Second Comptroller; and upon the return of this list to the paymaster, with the amounts inserted, he is authorized to credit the account of the persons interested, and to take up the same on his quarterly accounts under its proper head. The forwarding of such lists to the Fourth Auditor is considered a good guarantee of identity, and the return of the lists good authority for the payment of the claims. Officers on leave or waiting orders are guided by the same rules. They report to the paymaster upon whose books they are registered, and receive their prize money as if they were serving on shipboard. Persons out of the service entitled to prize money, are paid by certificate on a navy agent, upon transmitting to the office of the Fourth Auditor proof of identity. Payments of amounts due deceased officers, seamen, and marines, are made to administrators, who are heirs, or appointed with the consent of the heirs, upon application to the office of the Fourth Auditor. Petty officers and seamen should be furnished with a certificate of identity by the commanding officer and the paymaster of the vessel to which they are attached at the time of any capture being made, which will enable them to establish their identity with facility when the prize money shall be ready for distribution.

Petty officers, seamen, etc., out of the service, must prove their identity by a sworn statement before some public officer duly authorized to administer oaths, and in the presence of witnesses, who must sign the statement. A certificate of identity, by a commissioned or warrant officer of the Navy, is also required. If the discharge, or a certified copy thereof, be furnished, and the certificate of some non-commissioned or warrant officer cannot be obtained, the claimant must so state on oath, giving the reasons, and the affidavit of two credible and disinterested witnesses will be required instead. Persons entitled to prize money, who are ignorant of the amount, may be furnished by the Fourth Auditor with a statement of the amount due to each, provided that each shall first file with said Auditor his oath of identity, and, if out of service, his discharge. But if he have not this discharge, he must account satisfactorily for its absence. In case of the death of the party, heirship may be established by the fact being inserted in the letters of administration, and additionally proven by the affidavits of two disinterested persons, taken before an officer duly empowered to administer oaths. When the amount due does not exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, letters of administration are dispensed with, and the prescribed affidavit substituted. The widow, if she be the applicant, should render a certified copy of her marriage certificate. If the heirs be minors, guardians should be appointed. We published in the issue of the Journal of October 10th a list of prizes ready for payment. Since that date the proceeds of the sales of the following vessels have been paid into the Treasury, and are ready for dis-

tribution to the officers, sailors, etc., of the vessels named as captors:

Revere.	Mary Tauza, Mahaska.
Columbi.	Santiago de Cuba.
Hatters.	Magnolia.
William.	De Soto.
Orion.	Quaker City.
Courier.	Huntsville.
Lilly.	W. G. Anderson.
Julia.	Sagamore.
Two Sisters.	Kittatinny.
Felas Henry.	Albatross.
J. G. McNeil.	Tabora.
Theresa.	Arthur.
	W. G. Anderson.

To show how handsomely the vigilance of blockaders has been repaid, we give the particulars of the distribution in the case of a few vessels: The *Memphis*, captured by the *Magnolia*, yielded \$610,914 07. Acting Volunteer Lieut. Wm. Budd commanded the *Magnolia*: his vessel not being attached to a squadron at the time of the capture, his share was three-twentieths of the half awarded to the captors. The following is the distribution of the prize money realized—\$610,914 07:

Commandant.	\$38,218 55
Acting-Masters.	12,060 46
Acting-Assistant-Paymaster.	10,453 26
Acting-Assistant-Surgeon.	10,067 29
Acting 2d Assistant-Engineer.	8,040 97
Acting 3d Assistant-Engineers, each.	6,630 73
Acting-Master's-Mates, each.	3,859 66
Paymaster's Steward.	2,804 75
Surgeon's Steward.	2,412 29
Yeoman.	2,315 50
Master-at-Arms.	2,492 29
Ship's Cook.	2,315 80
Officers' Stewards and Cooks, each.	1,929 53
Boatswain's, Carpenter's, and Gunner's Mates, each.	2,412 29
Coxswain.	2,315 80
Quarter Gunner.	1,620 83
Nurse.	1,350 88
Seamen.	each 1,736 88
Ordinary Seamen.	1,350 88
Landsmen.	1,157 91
First Class Firemen.	2,894 75
Second Class Firemen.	2,412 29
Coal Heavers.	1,733 85

The *Britannia* and *Victory* were captured by Lieutenant-Commander R. H. Wyman, of the *Santiago de Cuba*, the former yielding the sum of \$169,695 72, and the latter \$209,992 45, making \$469,694 17—the captures being made within the space of a week. The following is the distribution:

Flag Officer.	\$11,742 34
Commandant.	23,484 71
Lieutenant.	7,791 46
Acting Masters, each.	6,223 33
Acting Ensign.	4,984 54
Acting-Assistant Paymasters.	5,402 08
Acting-Assistant Surgeon.	5,194 31
Acting-Chief Engineer.	7,479 90
Acting-Second-Assistant-Engineers.	each 4,155 45
Acting-Third-Assistant-Engineers.	each 3,116 53
Gunner.	4,155 45
Acting Master's-Mates.	1,994 52
Paymaster's Clerk.	1,651 64
Yeoman.	1,495 98
Master-at-Arms, Boatswain's, Gunner's and Carpenter's Mates.	each 1,246 63
Coxswains, Quartermasters, Captains of Forecastle, and Ship's Cook.	each 1,196 71
Quarter Gunner, Captains of Hold, and Captain's and Officer's Cooks.	each 997 31
Pilot.	2,901 96
Seamen.	each 997 31
Ordinary Seamen.	698 12
Landsmen.	598 40
First Class Firemen.	1,495 96
Second Class Firemen.	1,246 63
Coal Heavers.	867 57
First Class Boys.	467 07
Corporal of Marines.	648 24
Sergeant of Marines.	1,097 02
Privates of Marines.	648 24

The *Ledona*, captured by the *Unadilla*, yielded a total of \$115,915 74, which was divided as follows:

S. F. Dupont, Flag Officer.	\$ 5,705 78
Napoleon Collins, Lieutenant-Commanding.	11,591 57
Charles H. Green, Lieutenant.	5,730 00
Edward Vansice, Acting-Master.	4,583 99
William L. Tuttle.	4,583 99
Peter N. Cruse.	4,583 99
Edward Marsland, First-Assistant-Engineer.	3,809 99
Edward May, Paymaster.	6,111 99
Robert H. Thurston, Third-Assistant-Engineer.	2,291 99
Henry H. Lionel, ditto.	2,291 99
Frederick Burd, Jr., ditto.	2,291 99
William R. Brice, Master's Mate.	1,466 88
James Collins, Captain's Clerk.	1,528 —
George E. Thomas, Acting Master's Mate.	1,466 88
Charles F. Hubbard, Assistant-Surgeon.	3,819 99
Patrick H. Brown, Paymaster's Clerk.	1,222 39
Yeoman.	880 12
B. Rawlins's Mate, Master-at-Arms, Gunner's Mate and Carpenter.	each 916 79
Quartermasters, Masters.	880 12
Sylv. M. Earle, Surgeon's Steward.	916 79
Coxswain, Captains of Forecastle, Ship's Cook.	each 880 12
A. M. Drummond, Captain of Hold.	733 44
First Class Firemen.	1,100 16
Second Class Firemen.	916 79
Seamen.	660 09
Ordinary Seamen.	513 40
Landsmen.	440 08
Coal Heavers.	669 09
Refugee Pilot.	1,100 16
Third Class Boys, each.	233 40

The large amounts realized out of these captures by even the lowest grades of the ships' crews, ought to exercise a healthy influence upon enlistments.

MILITARY MEMBERS OF LEGISLATIVE BODIES.—A statement made by one of the St. Louis journals that gentlemen holding military commissions had been notified that furloughs would not be given to them to attend the session of the Legislature of that State, led to inquiries of the War Department which elicited the following reply from the Secretary:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.
Hon. HENRY T. BLOW:—Your dispatch of yesterday is before me. No order has been made by this Department prohibiting furloughs to military officers who are members of the Missouri Legislature. On the contrary, it has been the uniform practice of the Department to grant such fur-

loughs. I have transmitted to General SCHOFIELD a dispatch of which the following is a copy:

WAR DEPARTMENT, November 10.

To Major-General SCHOFIELD, St. Louis, Missouri:

It has been the uniform practice of this Department to grant leave of absence to officers who are members of State Legislatures or Congress, to enable them to discharge their legislative functions. You are directed to grant immediate furloughs for similar purposes to any officers of your command who are members of the Legislature of Missouri, to enable them to attend the sessions of that body.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

You will please give me the name of any officers, and the regiments to which they belong, who are members of the Legislature, to whom furloughs have been refused, or for whom they are desired.

EDWIN M. STANTON,
Secretary of War.

REBEL PRIVATEERS AND AMERICAN COMMERCE.

AN APPEAL TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.:

Sir: The continued depredations of the rebel cruisers on the mercantile marine of the country have not only destroyed a large amount of the active capital of the merchants, but seriously threaten the very existence of that valuable part of our commerce.

Apart from the loss of so much individual wealth and the destruction of so valuable a source of material power and enterprise, it is humiliating to our pride as citizens of the first naval power on the earth that a couple of indifferently-equipped rebel cruisers should for so long a period threaten our commerce with annihilation. It is a painful source of mortification to every American at home and abroad, that the great highways of our commerce have hitherto been left so unprotected by the almost total absence of National armed vessels as to induce rebel insolence to attack our flag almost at the entrance of our harbors; and to actually blockade our merchantmen at the Cape of Good Hope recently, an account of which you have here inclosed, being a copy of a letter recently received from a Captain of one of the blockaded ships, having a valuable cargo. We are conscious that it is no easy matter to capture a couple of cruisers on the boundless waters of the ocean, aided and abetted, as they too often have been, at ports where international comity, if not international law, has been set at defiance; and we have witnessed with satisfaction the patriotic zeal and energy of your Department, and the glorious successes of our navy in subduing the rebellion which threatens our National Union.

Still we think that the loyal merchants and ship-owners of the country, whose zeal and patriotic co-operation have generously furnished the funds to sustain the Government, are entitled to have a more energetic protection of their interest than has been hitherto extended to it. Your very arduous official duties have no doubt prevented you from investigating the serious inroads which the unprotected state of our carrying trade has produced on our tonnage, and without troubling you with the great loss which our ship-owners sustain in the almost total loss of foreign commerce, it is only necessary to call your attention to the inclosed table, prepared and published by one of the best-informed commercial journals of the city, showing the loss of the carrying trade on the imports and exports of this city alone; by which you will perceive, that while, during the quarter ending 30th June, 1860, we imported and exported over \$62,000,000 in American vessels, and but \$3,000,000 in foreign vessels, we have, in the corresponding quarter of this year, only \$23,000,000 by our own ships, while we have \$65,000,000 by foreign vessels. The intermediate periods show a most painful decadence of our shipping interest and tonnage by transfer and sale to foreign flags, which, at this time of considerable commercial activity, does not so much indicate a want of enterprise in this field of occupation, as a want of confidence in the national protection of our flag on the ocean. The national pride of many of our patriotic ship-owners has subjected them to heavy sacrifices, in difference of insurance against capture, of two per cent. to ten per cent.; while the underwriters of the country have been compelled to make great concessions in favor of American shipping, yet without materially affecting the result, and many of them encountering heavy losses by captures in quarters where they had every reason to believe our commerce would be protected by national vessels of efficiency and power. Indeed, the almost total absence of efficient naval force in many of the great highways of commerce has had a damaging influence on our prospects by producing a great degree of temerity on the part of the rebel cruisers, and corresponding misgivings on the part of underwriters and others in interest, as to whether Government protection would be afforded to our ships laden with valuable cargoes.

The want of adequate armed vessels on prominent naval stations for protection of our ships, has become so notorious that underwriters no longer speculate on the chance of the capture of these rebel cruisers by any of our national ships, but calculate only the chances of escape of our merchantmen, or the possible destruction of the piratical craft from reported unseaworthiness or mutiny. These statements are made with all candor, and in no spirit of captiousness, but with a desire to concede that the embarrassments of the Department, which it may not be prudent or practicable to explain to the public, may fully justify the unfortunate position which the want of naval protection has placed our commerce in. Yet it is respectfully urged that you will give this subject the benefit of the same energy and ability which has so creditably marked the administration of your Department in all other channels of your official duties. No one can better comprehend than one in your position the value of successful commerce at this time of great National expenditure, and a paralysis of so important an interest cannot be contemplated without horror at this period of our National struggle. We beg leave also to inclose an extract from the *Commercial Advertiser* of the 26th inst., and to request your attention to the paragraph marked.

We are, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

Signed: Richard Lathers, President Great Western Insurance Company; J. P. Tappan, President Neptune In-

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surance Company; F. S. Lathrop, President Union Mutual Insurance Company; M. H. Grinnell, President Sun Mutual Insurance Company; Robert L. Taylor, merchant and ship owner; C. H. Marshall, merchant and ship owner; A. A. Low & Bros., merchants and ship owners; Grinnell, Minturn & Co., merchants and ship owners; Wilson G. Hunt, merchant; Charles Newcomb, Vice-President Mercantile Mutual Insurance Company; Brown, Brothers & Co., bankers; W. T. Frost, merchant and ship owner; Bogert & Kneeland, merchants; Duncan, Sherman & Co., bankers; Bucklin & Crane, merchants and ship owners; E. E. Morgan, merchant and ship owner; Wm. Whitlock, Jr., merchant and ship owner; Geo. Opdyke, Mayor New York city; August Belmont & Co., bankers; James G. King's Sons, bankers; Archibald Gracie, merchant; Howland & Frothingham, merchants and ship owners; Williams & Guion, merchants and ship owners; Jno. H. Earle, President New York Mutual Insurance Co.; Isaac Sherman, merchant and ship owner; W. A. Sale & Co., merchants and ship owners; Thomas Dunham, merchant and ship owner; Spofford, Tileston & Co., merchants and ship owners; Babcock, Bros. & Co., bankers; J. P. Morgan & Co., bankers; E. D. Morgan, United States Senator.

SECRETARY WELLES' REPLY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Nov. 14, 1863.
GENTLEMEN: The Department duly received your communication of the 28th ult., in reference to the depredations committed upon American commerce by the *Alabam* and other rebel cruisers. The pursuit and capture of these vessels is a matter that the Department has constantly in view, and swift steamers have been constantly in search of them, and at times very close on to them. They are under orders to follow them wherever they may go. The only vessel that had the impudence to attack our flag at the entrance of our harbors—the *Tacony*—was promptly pursued, and her career was soon terminated. The Department had about thirty vessels after her.

I thank you for your expression that energy and ability have creditably marked the administration of this Department in all other channels of official duties. A rigid blockade of the coast has been demanded, and its accomplishment has required all the available force that the Department could bring to bear. To do this it could not well dispatch a larger force than it has in search of piratical rovers. It will continue to give this subject its attention, and hopes, as the avenues to the insurrectionary region are becoming closed and the Navy is enlarging, to be able to have a larger force to pursue the pirates and secure the safety of our commerce abroad. Very respectfully,
(Signed) GIDEON WELLES,
Secretary of the Navy.

TO RICHARD LATHERS, Esq., and others.

ARMY AND NAVY PERSONAL.

Major McDonald of the 47th N. Y. Volunteers, has been made Lieutenant-Colonel of that Regiment.

COLONEL Chickering of the 3d Massachusetts Cavalry, rejoins his regiment after an absence of about three months.

GENERAL Fitzpatrick and Griffin are at Washington on short furloughs.

COMMANDER Parrott, U. S. N., and Lieutenant-Commander Todd, are stopping at Willard's Hotel, Washington, D. C.

BRIGADIER-General Robert Anderson has been relieved on account of ill-health, from the command of Fort Adams, at Newport, R. I.

CAPTAIN D. H. Buell and 1st Lieutenant G. W. McKee, U. S. Ordnance Department, are announced as Assistants to the Chief of Ordnance of the Department of the South.

COLONEL Hoffman, Commissary-General of Prisoners, has gone to the West, to inspect the condition of rebels confined at Sandusky and elsewhere.

LIEUTENANT-Colonel Frederick has been placed in command of the Invalid Corps depot, vice Colonel Wisewell, appointed chief of that bureau, vice Colonel Rush relieved.

SURGEON-General Hammond has been ordered to Nashville, Tenn., on a tour of inspection among the hospitals of our western armies.

PAYMASTER Henry R. Day, who has been relieved from duty on the receiving ship *Alleghany*, still remains on duty as Paymaster of the Baltimore Naval Station, and Inspector in charge of stores.

By order of Major-General Butler, Major Joseph M. Bell, has been appointed Provost-Judge of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, vice Major Stackpole, Judge-Advocate, relieved.

BRIGADIER-General Charles K. Graham has been relieved, by order of the Secretary of War, from his command in the Army of the Potomac, and directed to report to General Butler.

MAJOR Charles J. Whiting, 2d United States Cavalry, has been dishonorably dismissed the service for disloyalty, and for using contemptuous and disrespectful words against the President of the United States.

BRIGADIER-General Neal Dow, who is a prisoner at Richmond, has been authorized by our Government to draw on Colonel Meredith, officer of exchange at Fortress Monroe, for any articles which his fellow captives may need.

BRIGADIER-General John Gibbon has been assigned to the command of the Conscript Camp at Cleveland, Ohio; his wound, received at Gettysburg, still preventing him from entering the field.

LIEUTENANT-Colonel Greene, Chief Quartermaster of the Department at Washington, has been relieved. Lieutenant-Colonel Lathrop, Inspector-General of General Heintzelman's Staff, has also been relieved, and ordered West.

COLONEL Isaac F. Shepard, of the Third Missouri Volunteers, recently commanding the colored troops in Northeastern Louisiana, has received the appointment of Brigadier-General of Volunteers.

MAJOR-General Augur, has been relieved from Court-Martial duty, and has assumed permanent command of the Department of Washington. Major-General Heintzelman has

been assigned to the place, made vacant by General Augur's assignment.

The following officers have been honorably discharged from the service:—Lieutenant-Colonel Henry C. Tuthill, 104th New York; Captain L. A. Johnson, Co. H, 11th Pa. Reserves; Assistant-Surgeon Edson Boyd, 42d New York; and Second-Lieutenant Daniel O. Sullivan, 61st Ohio.

COMMODORE Wm. D. Porter has been ordered before the Naval Retiring Board, which, after a recess, has again convened. Commodore Porter is a brother of David Porter on the Mississippi, and also saw some important service himself in that quarter.

ADJUTANT J. W. Bradford, of the 2d R. I. Regt., has been made aide to Brigadier-General Wheaton. Lieutenant E. H. Rhodes, is appointed Adjutant. E. S. Prentiss, formerly a 2d Lieutenant, has received an appointment from the Governor as 1st Lieutenant, and is re-assigned to the 2d regiment.

RECENT advices from Pensacola state that Lieutenant Flint of the United States marines, died on the 15th ult. He was from Wisconsin. The fever, which was unusually fatal, has abated. Of three hundred cases, more than seventy failed to recover. The Marine Guard lost one Lieutenant and thirteen privates.

THE name of the fort on the south side of the Potomac River at present known as Fort DeKalb, has been changed to Fort Strong, after Major-General George C. Strong, U. S. Volunteers, who died at New York city, July 30, 1863, of wounds received in an assault upon Fort Wagner, Charleston Harbor, South Carolina.

ASSISTANT-Surgeon Benjamin King, United States Army, has been retired from active service, and his name will be entered on the retired list of officers of the grade to which he now belongs, in accordance with section 12, act approved July 17, 1862, he having been borne on the Army Register more than forty-five years.

COLONEL Albert J. Myer, Chief of the Signal corps, has been ordered to Memphis then to report back here to the Adjutant-General. The property of the corps, with the exception of the field telegraphic force and materials and trains, which have been assigned to Colonel Anson Stager, of the Military Telegraph, has been turned over to Captain Nicodemus.

COLONEL Samuel M. Quincy has left Boston to take his place on the staff of Brigadier-General George L. Andrews, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He is to be Inspector-General of the Corps d'Afrique. Colonel Quincy was obliged, from disability, occasioned by his wounds and imprisonment after the battle of Cedar Mountain, to resign the Colonels of the 2d Massachusetts Infantry.

FIRST Lieutenant Joseph J. Ennis, of the 71st Ohio, found guilty of forging an order, detailing him to go from Louisiana to Cincinnati, to arrest deserters, has been reduced to the ranks. He absented himself seven months under this forged order. A court martial sentenced him to serve three years or during the war, as a private, in such regiment as the General commanding the Department might designate, and General Burnside selected the 20th Kentucky.

INTELLIGENCE has been received of the death, at Charleston, of Lieutenant C. H. Bradford, of the Marine Corps, who was wounded and captured in the naval assault on Sumter. The wound was in the thigh, and mortification having supervened, his death occurred some three weeks since. The intelligence was received in a letter from Lieutenant Meade, also a prisoner, to Lieutenant Meeker, which was very kindly forwarded by Bishop Lynch, of Charleston. Lieutenant Bradford was attended by Dr. Mackie, formerly of our Navy, and received every attention which his situation required. The prisoners captured in the assault were, at the date of Lieutenant Meade's letter, confined at Columbia, South Carolina.

THE following named officers are announced as upon the Staff of Major-General Butler, commanding Department of Virginia and North Carolina: Colonel J. Wilson Shaffer, Aid-de-Camp, Chief of Staff; Lieutenant-Colonel J. McLean Taylor, Chief Commissary; Lieutenant-Colonel Geo. A. Kense, Inspector-General; Major R. S. Davis, Assistant-Adjutant-General; Lieutenant-Colonel J. Burnham Kinsman, Aid-de-Camp; Major James D. Bell, Aid-de-Camp; Major Peter Hagerty, Aid-de-Camp; Captain Alfred F. Puffer, Aid-de-Camp; Captain Haswell C. Clarke, Aid-de-Camp; First-Lieutenant Frederick Mastin, Volunteer Aid-de-Camp.

ITEMS AND INCIDENTS.

AN infant daughter of General Rosecrans died at Yellow Springs, Ohio, last week.

THE 12th Illinois Cavalry, Lieut.-Col. Hasbrouck Davis commanding, has been ordered to Illinois to be reorganized as a veteran regiment.

THE French gunboat *Panama*, with Marshal Forey on board, sailed from New York on the 14th. She received and replied to salutes from the other French men-of-war in the harbor.

MAJOR-General THOMAS, commanding the Army of the Cumberland, has issued an order requiring newspaper correspondents to sign their full and proper names to all communications which they may send from that department for publication.

A GRAND farewell banquet was given to the French Admiral Reynaud and the officers of the Imperial navy now in port, at Irving Hall this week. It was a splendid affair, and was most brilliantly attended. More than one hundred and fifty covers were laid for the guests.

THE records of the Surgeon-General's office show that there are 54,642 patients under treatment in the various hospitals throughout the country, including rebel prisoners sick or wounded. The total capacity of these hospitals is 84,472 beds; 30,277 of these are vacant.

THE Richmond *Examiner* of November 11th has a grumbling article on the disposition of the Confederate Generals to surrender, and on the disposition of the Confederate government to promote them after performing so equivocal a military operation. The *Examiner* thinks that "as long as foreign nations see surrenders so complacently made, and

"promotion so often following them, they are uncertain whether some steamer may not bring the news of our unconditional surrender to the terms of our enemy."

MAJOR-General Augur has, for sanitary and other reasons, recommended that the contrabands now quartered in Camp Barker, Washington, be removed to the camp on Arlington Heights. The buildings for their reception will be ready by the 20th inst. A small depot will be retained in the city, whence new arrivals will be sent across the river.

THE Richmond *Enquirer* of November 10th, refers to the great activity in military movements in Northern Virginia, and says that "Meade has already signalized his advance with wonderful energy, and has inflicted a terrible blow upon the army of General Lee. In Western Virginia the disaster to General Echols's command shows the enemy active, bold and enterprising."

THE following is the despatch sent by President Lincoln to General Meade, and published to the army on the 10th inst.:—Washington, Monday, Nov. 9, 1863.—Major-General Meade—I have seen your despatches about operations on the Rappahannock, on Saturday, and I wish to say, "Well done."—(Signed)

A. LINCOLN.

CHEVALIER Isola, commandant, and Signor Marlines, Lieutenant of the Italian ship-of-war now lying in the harbor of New York, were on the 16th presented to the Secretary of State by the Commander Bertinatti, Minister of Italy, and by him presented to the President, and afterwards to the Secretary of War. Attended by the Secretary of State and the Italian Legation they visited the Navy Yard, where they received the proper national honors.

CHANGES IN NAVY UNIFORM.

We are indebted to MESSRS. TOME, SON & MELVAIN, at No 6 Maiden Lane, New York, for the following amended regulations, in regard to the uniform of staff officers of the Navy, as adopted by the U. S. Navy Department, November 11, 1863:

Shoulder straps to be of Navy blue cloth, 4½ inches long, 1½ inches wide, bordered with an embroidery of gold ¼ inch in width, with the following distinguishing devices:

Chief of Bureau of Steam Engineering—Centre device, cross oak leaf, 1 inch long, embroidered in gold, with star ¼ of an inch in diameter, embroidered on the same, in silver.

Fleet Engineers and Chief Engineers, after fifteen years—Spread eagle, 2 inches between the tips of the wings, standing on oak leaves spread 1½ inches; all embroidered in silver in centre of strap.

Chief Engineers, after first five years—Centre device, cross spread oak leaf, with leaf at each end ¼ of an inch in length, stalk of leaf placed ¼ of an inch from end of strap; all embroidered in silver.

Chief Engineers, first five years—Same as *Chief Engineer* after first five years, except leaves at end to be embroidered in gold.

First Assistant Engineers—Same as *Chief Engineers*, except that instead of the leaves there shall be 1 gold embroidered bar at each end, 2-10 inch wide, ¼ inch long, and placed 4-10 inch from end of strap.

Second Assistant Engineers—Same as *First Assistant*, but no bars.

Professors of more than twelve years—Centre device, circle 5-6 of an inch in diameter, yellow centre, with letter P in old English in silver, with leaf at each end embroidered in silver, as *Chief Engineers*.

Professors of less than twelve years—Same as for more than twelve years, except leaf at each end to be embroidered in gold.

Secretaries—Letter S in Old English, embroidered in silver, and two gold embroidered bars at each end, 2-10 inch wide, ¼ inch long, with 1-10 inch space between each bar, and placed 4-10 inch from end of strap.

Fleet Surgeons and Surgeon after fifteen years—Spread eagle 2 inches from tip to tip, standing on oak sprig 1-10 inch long, embroidered in silver in centre of strap.

Surgeons after first five years—Same as *Chief Engineer* after first five years, but no device in centre.

Passed Assistant Surgeons—Two gold embroidered bars at each end, 2-10 inch wide, ¼ inch long, with 1-10 inch space between each bar, and placed 4-10 inch from end of strap.

Assistant Surgeons—Gold embroidered bar at each end 2-10 inch wide, ¼ inch long and 4-10 inch from end of strap.

Chaplains of more than twelve years—Cross ¾ inch long and ¼ inch wide, placed obliquely in centre, with leaf at each end ¼ inch in length, stalk of leaf placed ¼ inch from end of strap. All embroidered in silver.

Chaplains of less than twelve years—Same as *Chaplains of more than twelve years*, except leaves to be embroidered in gold.

Chief of Bureau of Provision and Clothing—Oak sprig, 1½ inch long, embroidered in gold, with star ¼ of an inch in diameter, embroidered on same in silver, in centre of strap.

Fleet Paymasters and Paymasters after fifteen years—Spread eagle 2 inches from tip to tip, standing on oak sprig 1-10 inch long, embroidered in silver in centre of strap.

Paymasters after first five years—Centre device oak sprig 1½ inch in length, with leaf at each end ¼ inch in length, stalk of leaf placed ¼ of an inch from end of strap. All embroidered in silver.

Paymasters, first five years—Same as *Paymasters after first five years*, except leaves at end to be embroidered in gold.

Assistant Paymasters—Same as *Paymasters*, except that instead of leaves at end, there shall be one embroidered gold bar at each end, 2-10 inch wide, ¼ inch long, and 4-10 inch from end of strap.

Chief of Bureau of Construction—Same as *Chief of Bureau of Provision and Clothing*, except star to be embroidered on live oak leaves spread 1-10 inch.

Naval Constructors of more than twenty years—Same as *Fleet Paymasters*, except eagle to stand on live oak sprig, 9-10 inch in length.

Naval Constructors of more than twelve years—Same as *Paymasters*, after five years, except centre device, which shall be a sprig of live oak leaves spread 1-10 inch.

Naval Constructors of less than twelve years—Same as *Naval Constructors of more than twelve years*, except leaves at end to be embroidered in gold.

Assistant Naval Constructors—Same as *Naval Constructor*, except instead of leaves at end, there shall be one embroidered gold bar at each end 2-10 inch wide, ¼ inch long, and 4-10 inch from end of strap.

CAP ORNAMENTS.

Cap ornament to be embroidered gold wreath of oak and olive leaves. Wreath 3 inches in width, and 1½ inches high, with the following distinguishing devices:

Admiral—2 stars ¼ inch in diameter, with 4-5 of an inch space between centre of each star, embroidered in silver.

Commodore, Captain, Commander, Lieutenant-Commander, Lieutenant, Master, and Ensign—Foul anchor ¼ inch in length embroidered in silver.

Surgeon—Oak leaf 9-10 inch in length, embroidered in silver.

Chaplain—Cross ¾ inch in length and ¼ inch in width placed obliquely and embroidered in silver.

Professor—Same device as centre of shoulder-strap, but circle 4-6 inch in diameter.

Secretary—Letter S in Old English, embroidered in silver.

Paymaster—Oak sprig 9-10 inch in height embroidered in silver.

Engineer—Cross oak leaves, length 1-10 inch, height 9-10 inch, embroidered in silver.

Constructor—Live oak sprig, spread of leaves 1-10 inch, embroidered in silver.

For all other officers—Wreath only, no device.

CAP.

Cap to be of dark blue cloth, and of the following proportions: Of size No. 7½—top to be 8 inches, band 1½ inches wide; whole height 3 inches; leather visor 2½ inches wide; leather chin strap.

Ornaments to be placed on band.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Editor of this JOURNAL will always be glad to receive from officers in the two services, correspondence and general communications of a character suited to its columns. It is necessary that the name of the writer should, in all cases, accompany his communications, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Officers are especially requested to give us early notification of all personal matters of general interest; of the movements of vessels; of casualties among officers; and military and naval events.

The Editor will, at all times, be pleased to respond, in these columns, to enquiries in regard to tactical and other matters.

From gentlemen in the medical service we shall be glad to receive communications on military hygiene, practical surgery, and reports of notable operations and novel forms of treatment.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is FIVE DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartermaster's, Paymaster's or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietor, W. C. Church.

Subscribers who fail to receive their paper promptly, will please give immediate notice of the fact.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion, in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

All communications should be addressed to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, New York.

Subscribers ordering the address of their paper to be changed, should be careful to give their previous address.

NOTICE.

W. B. REDFIELD, of Cincinnati, Ohio, having ceased his connection with this JOURNAL as an agent, receipts from him will after this date be no longer acknowledged by the proprietor.

NEW YORK, November 21, 1863.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1863.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

THE perusal of the correspondence lately published between Commissioners OULD and MEREDITH on the exchange of prisoners, leaves the mind in a mood of confusion and pain; because, while the sympathies of every man with a spark of sensibility in his composition must be stirred by the thought of the thousands of brave men in bonds suffering the horrors of half-starvation, it is impossible to fix precisely where the difficulty lies, determine which party is in the wrong, or see the way to a speedy remedy.

The logic chopping between the two Commissioners lands one in flat bewilderment. On the most vital matters of fact involved, their contradictions are so radical as to pose the issue on the simple question of veracity between Mr. OULD and General MEREDITH. General MEREDITH, in his communication under date of the 29th October, reports Mr. OULD as having on a previous occasion made the "unequivocal declaration" that he would "proceed to declare exchanges whenever he conscientiously felt he had the right to do so, for the purpose of putting men into the field;" and in another part of the same communication he represents him as having affirmed that he would make declarations of exchanges for the purpose of putting troops into the field, "whenever he thought proper." In reply to these charges, Mr. OULD declares that after a faithful examination of his correspondence, both with General MEREDITH and his predecessor (Colonel LUDLOW), he can find "no instance in which such language has been used by him;" he further demands from General MEREDITH the date of the communication in which any such statement was made, and claims that, in default, he will "be justified in denouncing the statement as utterly without foundation in truth." This, to be sure, is not an express denial by Mr. OULD of his ever having made these declarations; and whether or not the Confederate Commissioner is a man capable of quibbling about such matters, we know not; but there are other cases in which the antithesis is still more pronounced. Thus General MEREDITH intimates that the Confederate declaration of exchange of the prisoners paroled at Vicksburg by General GRANT, bearing date September 12th, 1863, was made "as if for the express purpose of increasing the force of General BRAGG against General ROSECRANS." Mr. OULD replies that "this is untrue;" that the declaration was not published until several days after the 12th, and that "not one of the officers or men named in that declaration of exchange was on the battle-field of Chickamauga." Again, General MEREDITH charges Mr. OULD with not having had valid paroles of Federals sufficient to cover the number declared exchanged by him. To this Mr. OULD rejoins that he had enough and more than enough. General MEREDITH affirms that Mr. OULD had not produced the lists. Mr. OULD insists that he had produced them. There are numerous other points

of minor importance, but respecting which the mutual contradiction is equally emphatic; and finally each party charges the other with bad faith touching the cartel, and a disposition to disregard, override or nullify its provisions.

It appears from the principal communication of Commissioner MEREDITH, that while his predecessor, Colonel LUDLOW, was on duty at Fortress Monroe, Mr. OULD at one time made a declaration of exchange embracing no great number of prisoners of war, not in accordance with the requirements of the cartel, and that he invited the Union Commissioner to make a corresponding declaration of equivalents. Such a declaration was made by Colonel LUDLOW, thus acceding to the proposition of the Confederate Commissioner in this specific case; "but," adds General MEREDITH, "without anticipating the magnitude of the evil which now appears as the result of that departure from the cartel." Some time afterwards the events of the war threw into the hands of the Confederates a large body of paroled officers and men (over 30,000) captured by General GRANT at Vicksburg, and not long afterwards some 6,000 or more captured by General BANKS at Port Hudson. The statement of the action which the Confederate authorities took in regard to these men we shall give in General MEREDITH's own language, with the reply of the Confederate Commissioner to each point.

"Suddenly, and without any proper conference or understanding with me, you gave me notice that, on the next day after the date of that notice, you would declare exchanged a large portion of the troops which had been captured by General GRANT."

To this point no reply is made by Mr. OULD, though in other portions of the correspondence he intimates that this course was pursued in imitation of a similar declaration previously made by Colonel LUDLOW, on his own motion, and without previous agreement.

General MEREDITH says again:

"When your declaration was made it covered an indefinite number of troops, designated by commands, brigades, divisions, and corps, no definite number of either officers or men being designated. Up to that time you had delivered at City Point a certain number of prisoners of war, for which you had receipts, by which you must have known the number you might claim the right to discharge from their parole. You did not think proper to limit yourself to this number, nor, in any proper manner, did you refer to it, but made your declaration of exchange in such indefinite terms as made it next to certain that you did not intend to be governed by the cartel. Without referring to fractions, it appeared, from the best data in our hands, that you had discharged three for two, or one-third more than you were entitled to."

To this point Mr. OULD replies:

"You say I must have known that I had not delivered to you, nor had I valid paroles of your men sufficient to cover the number declared exchanged by me. I knew exactly the contrary, and so informed you. On the 12th of September, 1863, in announcing the declaration of exchange I would make on the following day, I wrote to you that I had in my possession more valid paroles of your officers and men than would be an equivalent for the officers and men enumerated in the exchange notice. I have made the same statement to you more than once since. I am prepared to prove that it was true each time it was uttered."

General MEREDITH says:

"You suggested that I should make a corresponding declaration of exchange, when, as I suppose, you must have known you had not delivered to me, nor had you valid paroles of our men sufficient to cover the number declared exchanged by yourself, and, when I proceeded to make the declaration extending to those men you had delivered, and stated to you my objection to your proceeding."

To this Mr. OULD replies:

"You say your declaration of exchange extended to those whom I had delivered. If you mean that it was limited to such, you are incorrect; for it declared exchanged all officers and men of the United States army, captured and paroled at any time previous to the 1st of September, 1863, and included many thousands of prisoners taken and paroled by our cavalry and other forces in many States of the Confederacy, never delivered by me. I have already furnished you a memorandum of at least sixteen thousand of the paroled prisoners."

General MEREDITH declares that

"You insisted that you had valid paroles for more than the number that you had declared exchanged, though you failed to produce those paroles or to give any account or history of them."

To this Mr. OULD replies:

"You say I failed to produce the paroles or to give any account or history of them. If you mean I refused to do so, it is not true. I offered to produce them at any time, and importuned you to agree to some principle by which they could be computed and adjusted. When I last met you at City Point, you requested me for the first time to send to you a memorandum of the paroles claimed as valid by me. I furnished you with the list on the 27th instant, that being the first day after your request on which a flag of truce boat appeared at City Point."

General MEREDITH continues:

"And you then proceeded to make a further declaration

of exchange, ignoring the cartel altogether—basing your action upon no data communicated to me, the whole proceeding resting, as I suppose you will say, upon your sense of right, as if you were the only party having a right to an opinion on the subject."

To this Mr. OULD replies:

"You say I then proceeded to make a further declaration of exchange, ignoring the cartel altogether, and resting the whole proceeding, as you suppose, on my sense of right. There again you are mistaken. I did not rest the proceeding entirely upon my sense of right—I relied, in some measure, upon yours."

A point which he proceeds to prove.

It is of course impossible to say anything regarding this mass of contradictory replications. It is obvious, however, that the whole matter is too much out of joint for General MEREDITH to set it right. Even if his correspondence revealed in him the capacity to deal with this tangled skein, (which we must frankly say it does not), it is evident that his action is embarrassed and complicated by transactions entered into by his predecessor. We take the liberty, therefore, of urging upon the Government, in the strongest terms the appointment of a Commission Extraordinary, for the adjustment of all points in dispute touching the exchange. The fact of the distressing sufferings to which, in consequence of insufficient food, our Union prisoners have been subjected in Richmond, although it does not introduce any new point of law into the question of exchange, certainly adds a powerful urgency to the necessity of having all the points of dispute put upon an intelligible basis, and some agreement speedily reached. The matter is certainly not beyond the power of fair-minded and intelligent men to deal with definitively. In regard to the question of the sufferings to which our prisoners have been subjected, although we would fain believe that there has been some exaggeration in the stories of actual starvation, yet enough is known as actual fact to touch the dullest sensibility, and cry aloud for remedy. We are not willing to believe that the afflictions of our men in bonds are due to any policy pursued by the Confederate authorities; for such diabolical malignity passes what we can credit even of pirates. The productive forces of the States in rebellion are amply sufficient to supply all demands; but they are scattered over immensely extended areas of country, and the means of transportation have been greatly reduced. Two thirds of the supplies for Richmond have hitherto been brought over the Virginia and East Tennessee railroad, which is now in our possession. The other great line leading into the cereal-producing States has lately been absorbed for the transportation of troops: hence, the temporary scarcity at Richmond—a scarcity by which the population doubtless suffer as well as the Union captives. We are thus brought face to face with the conclusion that the more our conquests are extended the greater will be the hardships of our prisoners in the hands of the enemy, unless a well-settled policy shall in the meantime be determined upon.

POPULAR APPRECIATION OF MILITARY EDUCATION.

IN tracing the history of national ideas during the past two years of war, it is interesting to observe how the popular appreciation of the value of military education and training has been quickened by the lessons of each successive campaign. In the beginning it was the fashion to sneer at those who had made the profession of arms their study, and an experience in Congress was apparently regarded as a more essential qualification to command, than a course of study at West Point. Indeed, there seemed to be in some quarters a half suspicion that the possession of military knowledge and a conscientious regard for the essential principles of military science, were in some way a disqualification for the public service. It was for a time forgotten by too many of those who influence public opinion and action, that though it is important in a war like the present, that our troops should be led by men of earnest patriotism, that is not alone sufficient, but it is equally essential to success that they should be thorough soldiers, in which term we include just regard for the primary principle of soldierly honor, which demands implicit obedience to lawful authority.

But this lesson would seem to have been learned at last, and we no longer find in our public prints those sneers at West Point and its graduates, which formed the staple of so many editorials in the earlier days of the war. It has come to be generally acknowledged that to the educational influence of our national military

college we, in this, as in the war with Mexico, are chiefly indebted for what success we have achieved. It has been the leaven that has gradually leavened the whole lump, and out of the mobs who first rushed to battle in the early stages of the war, formed our present compact and well-disciplined armies. That this result was not sooner effected, has been due to the erroneous ideas in regard to all military matters, which have controlled in this country.

This is no new experience in our history. It is only gradually that we have been making progress toward a just appreciation of the military profession. In the war of the Revolution we received our first lesson, which resulted in the establishment of the academy at West Point. And as the lessons of that struggle were lost sight of in the pursuits of prosperous peace, this institution languished, forgotten and neglected, taking firm root only when the war of 1812 had recalled public attention to the importance of military education. Shall we, when peace returns to us, again lose sight of the truth in this direction, or will the general diffusion of military ideas lead us at last to the adoption of some system of national military instruction, which shall give us the advantages of an adequate force of trained soldiers for the protection of the state, and at the same time guard us against those dangers and burdens which are associated with powerful military establishments?

FROM a memorial presented by a number of gentlemen of this city to the Secretary of the Navy, in behalf of the "loyal merchants and ship owners of the "country," it appears that in consequence of the depredations of the rebel privateers upon our commerce the carrying trade between this country and foreign ports has almost entirely passed into foreign hands. The amount of merchandise imported and exported in American vessels has, we are told, fallen off from \$62,000,000 to \$23,000,000, while that carried in foreign vessels has increased from \$3,000,000 to \$65,000,000. It is not surprising in view of these facts that those interested should urge upon our Government the necessity of some more efficient action for the protection of American commerce. It is gratifying to learn, as we do from Secretary WELLES' reply to the memorial, that he is purposing to send a larger force in pursuit of the pirates as soon as the vessels become available from the enlargement of the Navy, or from the release of vessels on blockading duty. Yet we fear that this will fail to remedy the evil. What we want is not so much an increase in the number as an increase in the speed of our vessels. We believe the only really swift steamer sent in pursuit of the rebel cruisers, has been the *Vanderbilt*.

The swifter vessels of the Navy consume so much coal that the amount they have to take for a long cruise makes it impossible for them to carry heavy guns. We need vessels with engines that can give us an equal power, with a far less consumption of coal than is now required for vessels built on the present plan. With the proper machinery we might rapidly extemporize a fleet of swift steamers by refitting some of our best models.

WE understand, through private advices, that the Government has resolved on the abandonment of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. It will be remembered that after the taking of Vicksburg, General HURLBURT's corps (16th) was assigned the duty of holding this line as far east as Corinth, while General SHERMAN's corps (15th) was given the task of reopening it from Corinth to Decatur. The annoyance of the rebel cavalry was so great, however, that the attempt had to be given up, just as the same attempt by General BUELL last year had to be given up. Abandoning the design of opening this line of communication, General SHERMAN passed the Tennessee at Eastport, and has now made a junction with GRANT's main body. In pursuance of the policy of giving up the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, the commissary stores and other public property are being removed. To supply the place of this great highway, it is understood, the Government will open the Columbus and Mobile road. Troops and supplies will be transported over that route to Corinth, making Columbus instead of Memphis the chief dépôt. From Corinth the road will have to be protected to Decatur. From this point eastward to Chattanooga it is well covered by the Tennessee. This will doubtless be a task of some difficulty, but far less so than to attempt

to hold the line from Memphis. Railroads introduce so important an element into warfare that it is a thousand pities the road was not on the north instead of the south side. The Government may even find it desirable to open a line on the north side from Corinth to opposite Decatur.

RUMORS coming from a high source in Washington have for some days been in circulation in this city, to the effect that BRAGG has again assumed the initiative, and attacked General GRANT's force, and that a severe battle was going on on Wednesday. Up to the moment of our going to press, however, there has been no public confirmation of this report, and we can simply say that it is not at all improbable. Even if BRAGG should not attack, there are cogent reasons why Gen. GRANT should do so. The rebels have such command of his communications between Chattanooga and Bridgeport as to render them extremely precarious. Their batteries have full play on the two bridges crossing the Tennessee between the points named, and by this and other means of annoyance, they still succeed in greatly embarrassing communication. The possession of the south side of the Tennessee and of Lookout Valley, which was gained by the brilliant action three weeks ago, it is true, saved the garrison at Chattanooga from the necessity of abandoning that point; but until General GRANT's communications are secured by driving back the rebels from that whole region, he will have no certainty of his ability to sustain his army. We take it that General GRANT is not the man to allow his communications to be thus trifled with, and we may soon expect to hear that he has taken steps to that end.

THE daily press have occupied much space during the past week in discussing the rebel conspiracy in Canada, to the discovery of which we made brief allusion in our last number. Some are disposed to contend that our authorities have allowed themselves to be unduly frightened by a small affair. It seems to be proven, however, that a plot has been for some time hatching in Canada, of sufficient magnitude to justify the prompt measures taken by the War Department to protect the border. A rebel vessel, the *Lee*, is said to have recently arrived in Canada with a band of some thirty or forty picked officers, who were to organize an expedition among the rebels in Canada, seize the *Michigan*, one of the naval vessels on the lake, liberate the rebel prisoners, 2,000 or more, on Johnson's Island, and then march along the lake shore, burning and destroying wherever they could. Captain WILLIAMSON, of the *Lee*, is reported to have commanded the expedition, assisted by Lieutenants BREST, KELLY, HUDGINS, GALLATIN, GIFT, BRADFORD, MINOR (of Merrimac fame) and TOBIN, of the Confederate navy; and Marshal KANE, of Baltimore notoriety, is said to have had a share in the plot. A full supply of artillery, revolvers, muskets and cutlasses was shipped from New York city to various ports on the border, and from there removed to the places of rendezvous. Such is the story as we receive it.

A CORRESPONDENT suggests that the lack of seamen for our ships of war be supplied by transfers from the War to the Navy Department of soldiers who had been trained in peaceful life to seamanship. "In the seacoast towns, particularly in the New England States," he says, "the late draft has brought into the Army a great many coasting sailors and fisherman, and from the Lake regions a great many Lake sailors. These men, if given the privilege, would gladly be transferred to the Navy Department for their term of service. Many of them would pass as seamen, others as ordinary seamen, while many others would volunteer as landsmen." Though under some circumstances our correspondent's suggestion would be a good one, we fear Secretary STANTON would be loth to part with any of his men, even to Secretary WELLES, now, when the Army is in scarcely less need of men than the Navy. We fancy he would think he was robbing Peter to pay Paul.

THE correspondence of the rebel agents in Europe, intercepted on the *Robert E. Lee*, and other captured blockade runners, shows that a regular system of blockade running had been established, and that the rebel Government and certain merchants of London were jointly interested in the adventurous traffic. Five steamers, owned two-thirds by the Confederate

States—which pays its share in cotton at sixpence a pound, delivered at Charleston or Wilmington—and one-third by the London parties, are by special agreement, dated Sept. 30, 1863, to be run from the port of St. Georges, Bermuda, or Nassau, N. P., to Charleston, S. C. The rebel Government agrees to furnish coal and cotton at their port with all dispatch for these steamers; and for so doing a commission of two and one-half per cent. on the value of their one-third is to be allowed them. They also agree to furnish, as far as practicable, officers for the vessels. Two thirds of the inward cargoes the agreement requires to be purchased by the London parties for the Confederate States on lists furnished them for the purpose, unless the Confederate States should prefer to purchase directly through their officers abroad. These cargoes are to be sent out in neutral bottoms to the depots in the islands, and there shipped in one of these steamers, to run the blockade into one of the two Confederate ports named.

The opening of the line established under this agreement does not seem to look very auspicious for either of the partners. The Charleston blockade is vigilant, and that at Wilmington is proving equally so, leaving the Anglo-rebel steamers no port in which to enter.

MAJOR-GENERAL GILLMORE has ordered that hereafter the ordnance officers for the various posts in the Southern Department shall be appointed by the commander of said Department, upon the recommendation of the chief of ordnance. Post ordnance officers are to be held responsible for all ordnance and ordnance stores in the forts of their respective posts, and for all such stores on hand that appertain to the same.

AN account, which we publish elsewhere, of the condition of the rebel cavalry, will be valuable to our military authorities. It comes from a Southern source, and is evidently written by one who has a thorough understanding of his subject. Though the rebels were the first to give attention to the cavalry arm of the military service, they are now far behind us in respect both of numbers and equipment.

THE report of the battle of Chickamauga, and the movement resulting in the occupation of Chattanooga, which was forwarded to the War Department by Gen. ROSECRANS some weeks since, has not yet been given to the public. Meantime, the Army and the Country await with much interest the publication of this important document.

THE greatest credit is due to the Navy Department for the promptitude with which the deficiencies of the Wilmington blockade have been remedied. That port is now pretty thoroughly closed, leaving the rebels without a single open port for the entry of supplies from abroad.

VARIOUS rumors in regard to a change in the command of the Department of the Ohio are afloat; but we have as yet no official information on the subject.

THE New York *Times* publishes the following extracts from a letter received from a source which entitles it to the fullest credence. It is dated St. Petersburg, October 30th:

The war preparations continue here upon a scale unprecedented in the history of Russia. An immense recruitment has been ordered throughout the Empire. Very large earthworks and stone forts have been constructed at this place, Cronstadt, Helsingfors, Viborg, and other places. The old granite forts at Cronstadt are to be covered with 12-inch rolled-iron plates. Ten or twelve monitors, and two or three iron-clads, of a different construction, have been ordered, and will be ready for sea in May or June next. Large quantities of cannon, shot and shell have been ordered from England, and will come overland during the winter. All the Government shops are being enlarged, and every effort is making to render Russia independent of other countries in war material, as she is already in food and clothing for her armies.

On the first appearance of the war cloud, the Russians dreaded it very much, although they were determined to do their utmost to sustain the EMPEROR, if it came to that. Now, however, the feeling has entirely changed, and they do not dread it at all. In fact, I think they rather court it than otherwise. ALEXANDER'S popularity is immense, and increasing every day. He is now visiting the southern portion of his empire, but is expected to return to St. Petersburg in a few days.

FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL MATTERS.

THE Monarch, target ship at Portsmouth, is receiving a fresh supply of armor plates, of 54-inch thickness, on her sides for testing by the 68-pounder guns.

THE new muzzle-loading guns for the Navy are to be of the bore of 9.22 inches, and are proposed to weigh 118 cwt.; they will thus fire a round ball of 100 lbs., with a minimum charge of 20 lbs. of powder.

AN International Congress, at which General DOURR presides, opened at Geneva on the 25th ult. The object of it is of great philanthropic importance, the design being to provide assistance for the wounded, in time of war, in the military ambulances.

THE British iron-clad frigate *Prince Consort*, on her passage from Plymouth for Liverpool, for the purpose of watching the rebel rams in the Mersey, was seriously disabled, and put into Kingston, where she remained, leaky and half full of water.

THE French transport vessel *Le Finisterre* left Cherbourg on the 23rd of October for Vera Cruz, having on board five hundred Zouaves and six hundred and fifty other troops to fill up deaths and other casualties in the French army in Mexico.

A DIFFICULTY is likely to grow up out of the cession of the Ionian Islands to the kingdom of Greece. The Austrians demand that the fortifications, dockyards and arsenals of Corfu shall not go with the islands, for they command the Adriatic.

ACCORDING to the last official accounts, it appears that the Danish steam fleet consists of one ship-of-the-line, five frigates, three corvettes, one schooner, three iron-clad vessels, seven gunboats and eight advice-boats. Three more iron-clad vessels, one of them a ship-of-the-line, are being built.

THE design for a new class of gunboats, to be iron-plated, and of light draught, is now under the consideration of the British Admiralty. They are intended to be propelled on the double-screw principle, and will replace the gunboats built during the Russian war, very few of which remain fit for service.

THE pulling down of the "Pétit Corporal" from the Vendôme column is not viewed with satisfaction in Paris. Why change the Austerlitz costume for that of an Imperial Caesar, it is asked? The *Moniteur* and *Constitutionnel* have both written articles to appease the public.

BESIDES the new fortifications at Kertch, Sebastopol and Eupatoria, a force of 30,000 Russian soldiers will be withdrawn from the Caucasus and placed in these stations, to be replaced by fresh soldiers from the interior. The Czar will personally inspect all these points, and the Grand Duke CONSTANTINE will shortly take the command, naval and military, of the whole of the Russian forces in the Crimea.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE has published some observations on the sanitary condition of the Indian army, at the request of the commission on that subject. She was particularly requested to give her opinion on the "consequences of a vicious course of life." The London *Critic* remarks on this request that it must have been thought "she had no more sex than an angel." But she accepted the task "with the repulsive sigh of a mortal woman, and the courage of an immortal angel."

THERE is no longer room for doubt that the British Government is earnestly intent on preventing the sailing of any more vessels-of-war for the rebel service. Two gunboats have been placed in the Mersey, opposite Mr. LAIRD's yard, to prevent the escape of the iron-clad rams. More than this, the workmen employed by the Messrs. LAIRD in completing the *El Toussaint* have been ordered to desist, and both rams taken possession of by the Government authorities in the Birkenhead Docks, while the gunboats guard the entrance and exit.

SOME experiments have recently been made at the Royal Engineers' field-works, Chatham, for the purpose of testing a new description of military suspension bridge, the invention of Sergeant-Major J. JONES, Royal Engineers. The bridge experimented upon had a span of some 130 feet, and was formed from the iron bands used in the construction of the gabions, also invented by Sergeant-Major JONES. These were fastened together in lengths, and firmly secured, the pontoon chasses forming the flooring. Notwithstanding the comparative frailness of the structure, horses, guns and troops were taken backwards and forwards across it, the bridge exhibiting little or no deflection. The entire structure was completed by thirty of the Engineers in six hours.

THE Royal Oak, an iron-clad screw steamship of the British Navy, on being placed in a dry dock has been found in a bad state. The armor-plates adjoining and in contact with the copper sheathing were found to be eaten away by galvanic action, presenting a series of corroded holes running into each other from half an inch to five-eighths of an inch deep. Some of the plates contained no less than 188 of these, while none had less than 40. Several detached holes are of an oval form, as though gouged out with a steel tool of all sizes, from that of the bowl of a salt spoon to that of a gravy spoon, and of equal depth, and some of the heads of the bolts had become recessed to the depth, size and appearance of the bowl of a sauce ladle. Numbers of the holes had run one into the other to the extent of five or six feet, five-eighths of an inch deep, and upwards; altogether presenting one of the most remarkable appearances

ever witnessed. The ship has only been about eight months in the water. What will be done with her has not yet been decided. These holes and corosions appear to have occurred wherever the red lead or undercoating had been rubbed or washed off. The French *La Gloire* is said to be in a still worse condition than the *Royal Oak*.

An English scientific journal says:—"Our cousins across the Atlantic have a new bomb charged with inflammable liquid, and which, in bursting, splashes ("asperge") all surrounding objects. This is only the natural effect of the discovery of the volatile oils of Canada. It was only natural that the discovery of the volatile oils of Canada should give the idea of employing these matters in setting fire to objects at short distances. Supposing that one takes a portion of such oils susceptible of dissolution in phosphorus or hydrogen of phosphorus, a liquid of fearful inflammability, and which water will not extinguish, may be obtained. Oil of naphtha or carbonate of sulphur, and other inflammable compositions, more or less happily combined with phosphorus, or phosphores, will furnish solutions to the problem."

THE Moniteur contains a long report from the Minister of Marine on the subject of maritime inscription. No sailor will now be obliged to serve more than six years, and during the second portion of this period leave will be granted, so that in fact but three years' actual service will be required of him. The second decree suppresses a law which forced young men who were engaged in studying for a merchant captain's diploma to serve on board the Imperial fleet a year, or at least six months. The system of substitution has also been admitted and assimilated to that which exists in the army. It is hoped that these benefits accorded to the maritime populations will induce others to frequent the coast and adopt a seafaring life. Recruiting offices for sailors were not long ago opened in the principal towns.

The officers of the "Empress' Dragoons" lately gave a dinner in the Salle Louis XII. of the Palace of Versailles, to the officers of the Cuirassiers, and Lancers in garrison in that place. Marshals MAGNAN and REGNAULT de St. JEAN d'ANGLEY, Generals d'ALONVILLE and PATE, and several other officers of rank were among the guests. Covers were laid for two hundred and thirty. Toasts were, of course, given to the EMPEROR, EMPRESS, and Prince Imperial, to the army, &c. On the health of his regiment of Dragoons being proposed, Colonel PAJOL said, in returning thanks, perhaps the day is not distant when the EMPEROR will call upon us to measure our swords with the oppressors of a people so full of sympathy towards France. We will then, like those who have gone before us, let the world know the advantages that may be derived from the combination of all the arms of cavalry. This expectation of a war with Russia—for it can only be Russia that is meant—was greatly applauded.

ONE of the French Marshals—NEIL it is said—is about to be charged with a temporary but important mission to St. Petersburgh, where he will probably remain during the absence of the Duke de Montebello. The interpretation given to this is that the Emperor NAPOLEON wishes to try a last attempt to persuade the CZAR to grant to the Poles the concessions which the diplomacy of Europe has hitherto failed to obtain from him. The London *Times*, in remarking upon this mission, says:—"The Emperor NAPOLEON is, doubtless, actuated by the most humane feelings in any steps he may take to overcome the stubbornness of the Russian Government; still it is thought that he would not be displeased, or greatly disappointed, if the Poles maintained themselves in insurrection till the spring. His Majesty made a direct application to the Emperor NICHOLAS immediately before the breaking out of the war in the Crimea, but without success, as everybody knows; and Marshal NEIL went on a mission ostensibly, but only ostensibly, of a most pacific nature, to Turin, before the war with Austria."

THE FRENCH IRON-CLADS.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Times* gives the following description of the French iron-clad squadron:—

The *Magenta* and *Solferino*, which were built on the same model, are longer and have a greater breadth of beam than any ship in the imperial navy. Their lines are remarkably fine, and demonstrate the great improvement which has taken place in ship-building in France of late years. Their forepart so fine and taper may be compared to a ploughshare intended to open a furrow in the sea, and is armed with an iron spur fifteen tons weight, of which the point is about four feet under water. Every precaution has been adopted to prevent any part of the ship, except the spur, from bearing the shock of a collision. The disadvantage of iron ships having but one tier of guns was discovered when the *Normandie* first experienced a heavy sea and was forced to close her port-holes. Had she been attacked by an ordinary steamship-of-war under such circumstances she must have been captured. The *Magenta* and *Solferino* were consequently built with a double tier of guns, so that should their lower port-holes be closed their upper guns will be effective.

In consequence of the great weight of the armor the lower tier of guns is reduced to twenty-six and the upper to twenty-four, which, with two on the deck, form altogether fifty-two guns, and of these twenty-six may be fired in almost any weather. It was further determined to sacrifice the fore and aft parts of these ships, and to cover only their centre with shot-proof iron plates. Notwithstanding this reduction, the plating still amounts to the enormous weight

of 900 tons. The powder magazine, the machinery and the cockpit are protected by the iron casing. The great danger to which these ships are exposed is their fore or aft part being set on fire by an enemy; but this has been anticipated, and part of the crew are specially appointed to act in such an emergency. The ships are consequently free from the defects discovered in the iron-cased frigates, and they roll considerably less in a heavy sea. This consideration, together with their upper tier of guns, gives these ships, notwithstanding that the bow and stern are unprotected, a decided advantage over the frigates.

The frigates *Normandie* and *Invincible* are built of timber, after the model of the *Gloire*. The engine is of 900 horse power, with eight boilers, and they are armed with rifled guns, throwing thirty-pound shot.

The *Couronne* is built on a different plan from the other two. She is of iron and timber, and can carry a greater supply of coals than the others, and she is armed with fifteen guns only. On the deck of each of the frigates is an iron-cased tower, intended to shelter the captain and the seamen who are required to remain on deck. Their masts and sails being their most vulnerable parts during an action are reduced to the smallest possible proportions.

During their first trial trip neither the *Magenta* nor the *Solferino* shipped any water, even in the worst weather, and they were able to make from three to five knots against the wind. The *Normandie*, during the same trip, lost her jibboom and her mizzen topmast, and she shipped so much water that at times fears were entertained of her safety in consequence of her fires having been extinguished. She likewise lost some of her boats.

The *Couronne* has proved herself the best of the three frigates. The severe gale they experienced during their first trial trip enabled Admiral PENAU to form a just idea of their good qualities and defects. Some improvements were accomplished during their stay in the port of Brest, and the necessary repairs having been completed, they sailed again on the 20th inst. for a longer cruise, which is to be extended, it is said, to the Island of Madeira.

It was M. DUPUY DE LORE who inspected the construction of the iron-cased squadron.

THE EARLY BOMBARDS.

PROFESSOR POLE sends the following to the London *Times*:—

In 1427, when the English in Normandy made their last assault on the Mont St. Michel, they brought to their aid "plusieurs machines épouvantables et divers engines de guerre," with which, to continue the words of the old chronicler, "ils dressèrent une batterie si furieuse contre les murailles qu'ils firent brèche." Among these formidable weapons were two enormous wrought-iron guns, which, on the repulse of the besiegers, they were compelled to leave behind them, and which have remained on the rock to the present time.

Interesting as these pieces of artillery are, both in a historical and a constructive point of view, very little has hitherto been known about them, and I am not aware that any complete and accurate description of them is in existence.

During a late visit to Normandy I have endeavored (at the suggestion of my friend the Secretary of the Ordnance Select Committee) to supply this want, and possibly the following notes may be acceptable to some of your readers:

I found the guns in a bad state, being choked up with masses of stone, sand, rust, and rubbish, which had probably been there for centuries, and had become almost as hard as conglomerate. However, by the courteous aid of M. MARQUET, the director of the "Maison Centrale" (to whom antiquaries and architects are so much indebted for his intelligent and zealous preservation of the beautiful ecclesiastical buildings on the island) I contrived to get them tolerably clear, to obtain their dimensions, and to take photographs of them.

The guns are of the kind termed "bombardes," and are of different sizes. The larger one is 19in. calibre, 30in. greatest external diameter, and 12ft. total length; of which about 8ft. 8in. belongs to the barrel, or "chase," and 3ft. 4in. to the smaller powder chamber in the rear. The smaller gun is 15in. calibre and 11ft. 9in. long.

They are true "built-up" guns, being formed of longitudinal wrought-iron bars, about 3in. wide, arranged like the staves of a cask, and bound round closely with hoops of the same material. The analogy of this ancient construction with that of the modern wrought-iron guns is very curious.

I found a projectile in each gun and several others lying about. They are granite balls, roughly spherical, and a little smaller than the bore. Those for the larger gun will probably weigh about 300 lbs. each; but if the size of the gun be denoted according to the calibre on the same principle as modern guns for round shot, it must be called a 920-pounder! The breach chamber would hold about 40 lbs. of powder. I estimate the weight of the large gun to be about 5t tons, and of the small one about 3½ tons. I have prepared detailed drawings and descriptions, which, together with prints of my photographs, will be deposited at the Royal Museum of Artillery, Woolwich.

There are two other ancient bombardes in existence, constructed on the same principle—namely, the "Dulle Griet" of Ghent, and the "Mons Meg" of Edinburgh. The "Michelettes," as they are called by the people of Mont St. Michel, compared well with these, but have an additional interest in their very early date and positive history, and in the probability of their being of English manufacture. They must have been well made and well served, for they performed successfully the duty required of them, without, so far as I can see, sustaining the least structural injury.

I think the attention of the French Government should be directed to the preservation of these interesting monuments of antiquity. So little are they prized by the commune to whom they are said to belong, that the Maire offered to sell them to me if I would fetch them away!

A BANKRUPT BLOCKADE RUNNER.—The case of Mr. ZACHARIAH CHARLES PEARSON, of Hull, is in the English Court of Bankruptcy. He is behind hand £212,584. The London *Star* says of him:—

He claims of the Federal Government of America no less

a sum than £87,692. He demands of the Confederate States £99,000; and he has a bill of £7,500 against the King of Italy. The losses on ships and cargoes sold to the Confederate government, who refused to fulfill their contract, and the capture by the officers of the Federal Government of sundry ships, are thus given:—*The Patras*, with freight and cargo, £15,378; *Stettin*, ditto, £19,840; *Circassian*, ditto, £35,000; *Empress*, £3,003; *Londonee*, £14,744—in all, £87,692.

We believe Mr. PEARSON's claims against the Federal Government are for vessels seized by their blockading squadrons. Driven, it is said, to almost desperate expedients by his gathering complications, Mr. PEARSON took to blockade running. He was singularly unfortunate. He is, if the accounts in circulation be not incorrect, one of the most competent witnesses living as regards the efficiency of the Federal blockade. One after another his vessels were seized by the Federal squadron. He claims, we believe, that some of these ships were illegally seized, and he therefore demands restitution. Perhaps he may get it. Or perhaps not. The demand on the Confederate government is for vessels and cargoes sold, in regard to which Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS and his Cabinet appear to have repudiated the agency of the purchaser. The amount sought of the Italian government is for the memorable *Orcwell*, seized by Garibaldians, and the adventures of which unlucky vessel formed the theme of more than one lengthened debate in the House of Commons.

PRIZE SALES AT NEW YORK.—We are indebted to United States Marshal MURRAY for the following statement, showing the proceeds of sales of prize property at the port of New York, forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy for distribution, since the 15th of October, 1863:

Names of Prize.	Amount of Distribution.	Vessels Entitled to Share.
25 bales cotton, &c., ex.	\$18,493.40.	14 vessels.
Napoleons.....	52,450.82	Bienveille, Restless, Flambeau, G. W. Blunt.
Cargo steamer Patras.....	239,703.71	Minnesota, Cumberland, Star, Perry, Keystone State.
Schr. Martha and cargo.....	1,351.40.	Santiago de Cuba.
Schr. Anglia and cargo.....	84,849.90.	Restless and Flag.
Schr. Scotia and cargo.....	93,596.62.	Restless.
Big R. Bruce and cargo.....	31,356.65.	Penobscot.
Schr. Water Witch and cargo.....	3,792.47.	Arthur, Sachem.
Schr. Gertrude and cargo.....	80,074.29.	Vanderbilt.
Cargo Sloop Mercury.....	802.21.	Quaker City and Memphis.
Cargo Hetiwan.....	11,126.85	Flag, Powhatan, Onondago, Ottawa and Flambeau.
Schr. Florida and cargo.....	758.24.	M. Vasa.
St. Nicholas I. and cargo.....	28,373.94.	Victoria.
Cargo schr. Reindeer.....	8,503.20.	Arthur.
Cargo schr. Rambler.....	7,423.46.	Connecticut.
Sir. Granite City and cargo.....	64,576.37.	Tigia.
Sch. North Carolina.....	4,096.26.	Quaker City.
Sch. Memphis and cargo.....	510,912.07.	Magnolia.
Sch. Sunbeam and cargo.....	59,453.15.	.
Sch. Ouachita.....	7,632.16.	Memphis.
Brig Delta and cargo.....	4,696.82.	Sante.
Brig Marin and cargo.....	959.01.	Victoria.
Schr. Sue and cargo.....	8,346.07.	Monticello.
Cargo Reindeer, alias Jeff. Davis.....	6,843.76.	W. G. Anderson.
Total.....	\$1,360,183.89.	

PROMOTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

THE following is a list of promotions among enlisted men in the Department of the South, for the month of October, 1863:

TO BE FIRST LIEUTENANT IN SAME REGIMENT.—Private Louis Malthot, Ind. Bat.; 1st Sergeant Thomas H. Combs, 62d Ohio Vols.; Sergeant J. C. Morrison, 62d Ohio Vols.; Sergeant J. B. Larimer, 62d Ohio Vols.; Sergeant Geo. W. Hirst, 62d Ohio Vols.; Sergeant Timothy Mahoney, 52d Penn. Vols.; Sergeant-Major W. B. Vance, 13th Ind. Vols.; Sergeant Archibald Clark, 11th Maine Vols.; 1st Sergeant Joseph B. Alter, 75th Ohio Vols.; 1st Sergeant D. C. Ballantine, 75th Ohio Vols.; Private J. H. Curtiss, 3d N. Y. Vols.

TO BE SECOND LIEUTENANT IN SAME REGIMENT.—Sergeant Henry Acker, 48th N. Y. Vols.; Sergeant-Major C. B. Wyckoff, 48th N. Y. Vols.; Sergeant Myron B. Pierson, 100th N. Y. Vols.; Sergeant B. F. Hughson, 100th N. Y. Vols.; Private James Finch, 100th N. Y. Vols.; Sergeant-Major A. B. Contryman, 142d N. Y. Vols.; Sergeant H. Edgar Baily, 144th N. Y. Vols.; Private Wm. Wolf, 85th Pa. Vols.; Sergeant Wm. Jones, 13th Ind. Vols.; Sergeant-Major W. D. Stearns, 4th N. H. Vols.; Sergeant John L. Taylor, 8th Maine Vols.; Sergeant Edwin T. Clifford, 9th Maine Vols.; Sergeant-Major Wm. L. Savage, 10th Conn. Vols.; Sergeant R. F. Hall, 75th Ohio Vols.; Sergeant-Major Fred Betts, 17th Conn. Vols.; 1st Sergeant J. E. Hubbell, 17th Conn. Vols.; Sergeant Jos. E. Morehouse, 17th Conn. Vols.; Sergeant James W. Bryant, 40th Mass. Vols.

TO BE SECOND LIEUTENANT IN 14th R. I. H. A. (Colored).—Private Geo. Chatterton, 3d R. I. Art.; Private W. C. Jones, 3d R. I. Art.; Sergeant Geo. S. Reed, 3d R. I. Art.; Corporal H. N. Millikin, 3d R. I. Art.

Corporal Cornelius Simpson, 47th N. Y. V., promoted to First Lieutenant in 14th N. Y. Vols.

Private Louis A. McConno, 3d N. H. Vols., promoted to First Lieutenant in 5th N. H. Vols.

First Sergeant Samuel Webster, 7th N. H. Vols., promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 2d Co. N. H. Heavy Art.

First Sergeant Wm. H. Webb, 10th Conn. Vols., promoted to 2d Lieutenant in 19th Conn. Vols.

First Sergeant C. G. Chapman, 24th Mass. Vols., promoted to 2d Lieutenant in 54th Mass. Vols.

Quartermaster's-Sergeant John S. Ward, 17th Conn. Vols., promoted to 1st Lieutenant and R. Q. M. in the same Regiment.

Private Woodbury C. Smith, 34th Mass. Vols., promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 1st N. C. Vols.

THE venerable Mrs. Close, a lady whose life began with the career of the country, died at Poughkeepsie a few days since. The deceased lady was a daughter of the late General William P. Van Ness, and a near relative of Lady Gore Cussey and Mrs. Judge Roosevelt. In her girlhood

she was a recognized belle at a fashionable court, wherein the late President Van Buren, the late ex-Vice President Aaron Burr, William Wirt, General Wilkinson, Chief Justice John Marshall, the Van Rensselaers, the Livingstons, the Tibbits, the Hearts, and, at a later day, President Jackson, the late Secretary of War Eaton, John C. Calhoun, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Clay, were central figures, all of whom were accustomed to admire her beauty and eulogize her mental brilliancy. She was buried from St. Paul's, Troy.

ARMY GAZETTE.

THE VICTORY AT DROOP MOUNTAIN.

CLARKSBURG, VA., November 11, 1863.—8 P. M.
Brigadier General Cullum, Chief of Staff:
My information from Lewisburgh is that General Averill's victory was most decisive. At Droop Mountain the enemy's force engaged was over 4,000. They acknowledged loss of 300 killed and wounded. General Averill took over 100 prisoners, including field officers, one stand of colors, three pieces of artillery, a large number of small arms, camp equipage, and wagons.

A violent snow prevailed at Lewisburgh on the 8th.

B. F. KELLEY, Brigadier-General.

BATTLE FLAGS CAPTURED.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, NOVEMBER 12, 1863.

To the Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington:
GENERAL: I have the honor herewith to transmit, in charge of Brigadier-General D. A. Russell, seven battle-flags and one staff, the flag of which was torn off by the standard-bearer to prevent its being captured. These trophies were taken in the recent gallant assault on the enemy's entrenched position at Huppahannock Station, and Brigadier-General Russell has been designated by Major-General Sedgwick to deliver them to you, because of his conspicuous conduct as the leader of the storming party on the occasion.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE G. MEADE, Major-General Commanding.

DISMISSES

DURING THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1863.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. Walker, 85th Illinois Vols., to date October 6, 1863, for misconduct in the face of the enemy.

Captain John Graham, 83d Pennsylvania Vols., to date November 3, 1863, for absence without leave.

Captain Wm. H. Hill, 81st Ohio Vols., with loss of all pay and allowances, to date November 14, 1863, for certifying to a false and fraudulent account against the Government.

Second Lieutenant Frederick Kopp, 13th U. S. Infantry, to date November 13, 1863, for drunkenness while under arrest, and conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman.

Second Lieutenant A. C. Landis, 17th Pennsylvania Vols., to date November 11, 1863, for visiting a house of ill-fame while under medical treatment, and disobedience of orders in failing to report, as ordered, at the Provost-Marshall's office in Washington.

DISHONORABLY DISCHARGED.

Major Wm. H. Miller, 2d Wisconsin cavalry, to date November 11, 1863, upon charges of insulting a lady, of unlawfully stripping the chevrons from a corporal, and of abstracting and applying to his own use wines and whisky belonging to the hospital.

DROPPED.

By direction of the President the names of the following officers have been dropped from the rolls of the Army:

First Lieutenant Symmes Gardner, 18th U. S. Infantry.

Frank A. Tease, as an officer of the 17th New York Vols.

RESTORED TO COMMISSION.

The following officers, heretofore dismissed, are restored, provided the vacancies have not been filled by the Governors of their respective States:

Colonel F. S. Rutherford, 97th Illinois Vols.

Captain H. C. Bartlett, 33d New Jersey Vols., with pay from the date at which he rejoins his regiment for duty.

Captain Peter Black, 9th Massachusetts Vols., with pay from the date at which he rejoins his regiment for duty.

Captain D. E. Livermore, 3d Ohio Cavalry.

Captain G. W. Henrie, 12th Pennsylvania Vols., with pay from the date at which he rejoins his regiment for duty.

DISMISSES REVOKED.

The orders of dismissal in the following cases have been revoked:

Colonel John S. Cavender, 29th Missouri Vols., thus leaving him honorably out of the service by resignation.

Colonel Buron Egliozstein, 183d N. Y. V., and he is honorably discharged by resignation, without pay, to date November 12, 1863.

TO BE RECOMMENDED FOR DISMISSAL.

The following officers having been reported at the headquarters of the Army for the offences hereinafter specified, are hereby notified that they will be recommended for dismissal from the service of the United States unless within fifteen (15) days from Nov. 16th, they appear before the Military Commission in session in Washington, of which Brigadier-General Ricketts, United States Volunteers, is president, and make satisfactory defence to the charges against them:

Failing to report at Columbus, Ohio, as ordered.

Sergeant James Bryan, United States Volunteers.

First Lieutenant Joseph Marshall, 13th United States Infantry.

Failing to report at Annapolis, Md., as ordered.

Captain B. B. Perkins, 12th United States Infantry.

EXEMPT FROM DISMISSAL.

The following named officer, charged with offences, and heretofore published, is exempt from being dismissed the service of the United States, satisfactory explanation having been made in his case:

Captain E. D. Willard, commissary subsistence of volunteers.

First Lieutenant and Adjutant James B. Comstock, 21st Missouri Volunteers, charged with offences and heretofore published, is exempt from being dismissed the service of the United States, the Military Commission instituted by General Order No. 53, current series, from the War Department, having reported that satisfactory defence has been made in his case.

NOTICE TO DELINQUENTS.

The following officers having been reported at the Headquarters of the Army for the offences hereinafter specified are hereby notified that they will stand dismissed from the service of the United States unless within fifteen (15) days from Nov. 16th, they appear before the Military Commission in session in Washington, of which Brigadier-General Ricketts, United States Volunteers, is president, and make satisfactory defence to the charges against them:

Absence without proper Authority.

Captain F. Delecke, 52d Regiment, Indiana Volunteers.

Second Lieutenant William H. White, 29th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Second Lieutenant George W. Hillary, 29th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers.

First Lieutenant John D. Cooper, 2d Regiment, New Hampshire Volunteers.

Desertion.

Lieutenant N. Murphy, 55th Regiment, Illinois Volunteers.

SENTENCES OF COURT MARTIAL.

First Lieutenant E. A. Palmer, Co. D, 4th Regiment, Corps d'Afrique, to be dismissed the service, with loss of all pay, for admitting to his private quarters a black prostitute for licentious practice.

First Lieutenant Rollin M. Greene, 7th Vermont Volunteers, to be cashiered for drunkenness and neglect of duty.

Second Lieutenant John W. Osborn, Co. A, 7th Regiment, Corps d'Afrique, to be dismissed the service, for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

First Lieutenant Henry C. Steers, Co. H, 94th Illinois Volunteers, to be dismissed the service, with loss of all pay now due, or that may become due him, and further, that he be confined at hard labor

at such place as his commanding General may direct, for the term of '60 years, he having been convicted upon the charges of robbery in a larceny in taking from the dwelling house of Francis Bouliguay, in the Parish of Pointe Coupee, La., property to the amount of eight hundred and fifty dollars, belonging to the said Bouliguay.

Quartermaster Charles Perret, 15th Missouri Infantry, dismissed for defrauding the Government.

Second Lieutenant Michael Mungoran, 15th Mo. Volunteers, cashiered for violation of the 45th Article of War.

First Lieutenant George C. Charles, 2d S. C. Volunteers, to be cashiered for drunkenness and conduct to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

First Lieutenant Theodore Bertrand, Co. E, Independent Battalion N. Y. Volunteers, to be cashiered for drunkenness while on duty.

First Lieutenant A. E. D. Hughes, Independent Battalion N. Y. Volunteers, to be dismissed for disobedience of orders.

First Lieutenant Seth F. Swift, 9th N. Y. Volunteer Artillery, and Captain S. L. Anable, 7th N. Y. Volunteer Artillery, have been acquitted upon the charge of disobedience of orders.

Second Lieutenant George B. White, 4th Rhode Island Volunteers, to be dismissed for drunkenness on duty. Sentence not confirmed, and he has therefore been released from arrest and returned to duty.

Captain Thomas A. P. Champin, Commissary of Subsistence U. S. Army, to be dismissed the service for embezzlement of public property.

Captain James Weldon, Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Volunteers, to be dismissed the service for selling forage belonging to the Government without a proper order for that purpose.

Second Lieutenant L. E. Jenkins, 2d Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, tried by court-martial on the charge of receiving money from a substitute, in consideration for winking at such substitute's escape, has been honorably acquitted.

Captain C. F. Livermore, and Second Lieutenant C. T. Parker, 1st Battalion Mass. Heavy Artillery, tried by court-martial on the charge of coining in the escape of rebel prisoners from Fort Warren, Boston Harbor, in August last, have likewise been acquitted. Sentences approved by Major-General Dix.

Samuel T. Salisbury, Surgeon of the Board of Enrollment of the 4th Congressional District of Connecticut, tried by court-martial on charge of neglect of duty, malfeasance in office and violation of the Enrollment Act, was sentenced to be fined two hundred dollars, be confined at such place as the General Commanding may direct, for the period of two months, and then be cashiered and dismissed the service. The sentence was approved by Major-General Dix, except so far as related to his imprisonment, which was already equal to the time designated by the Court.

Captain John Carpenter, Co. C, 2d Arkansas Volunteers, tried by court-martial upon the charges of cowardice and neglect of duty, and found guilty, has been dismissed the service with loss of pay.

Captain Wm. H. Bacus, Co. L, 1st Regiment Colorado Cavalry, tried by court-martial upon the charge of fraud, has been honorably acquitted.

Captain Francis S. Mitchell, First California Volunteers, has been sentenced by court-martial to be dismissed the service of the United States, with loss of all pay now due or that may become due, and be forever debarred from holding office of trust or profit in the United States. Charge—disobedience of orders.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

ORDERED.

Surgeon Thomas Anisell, U. S. Volunteers, to relieve Surgeon Thomas H. Baché, U. S. Volunteers, as President of the Examining Board, for Assistant Surgeons of Volunteers, now in session in this city, and as attending Surgeon to sick and wounded volunteer officers. Surgeon Baché, as soon as relieved, to proceed without delay to Baltimore, Md., to relieve Surgeon George Rex, U. S. Volunteers, in charge of the U. S. General Hospital, West's Buildings, Baltimore, Md. Surgeon George Rex, as soon as relieved, to report in person without delay to the Commanding General, Department of the Susquehanna, to relieve Surgeon Ebenezer Swift, U. S. Army in charge of the U. S. General Hospital, Chester, Pa.

Assistant Surgeon H. M. Sprague, U. S. Army, now on leave of absence from the Army of the Tennessee, has been relieved from duty in that Army, and ordered to New York City, to relieve Surgeon George Taylor, U. S. Army, as a member of the Medical Board, now in session in that city, for the examination of Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons, for colored regiments, and for such other duty as the Medical Director of the Department of the East may assign him.

As soon as relieved, Surgeon Taylor to resume his duties as Surgeon in charge of the U. S. General Hospital at Newark, N. J.

Surgeon Charles Sutherland, U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty as Medical Director of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina, and ordered to report to the President of the Examining Board, now in session at Wilmington, Del., for duty as a member of the Board, to take the place of Surgeon Charles McCormick, U. S. Army. Surgeon Charles McCormick, as soon as relieved, to report in person to Maj.-General Butler, as Medical Director of the Department of Virginia and North Carolina.

Surgeon G. H. Taylor, U. S. Volunteers, has been relieved from duty as Medical Inspector of the Army of the Potomac, and ordered to report in person without delay, to Surgeon John Campbell, U. S. Army Medical Director

NAVY YARDS.

BROOKLYN NAVY YARD.

Work at this yard has been greatly impeded by the persistent strikes of the laborers engaged on Government work put out to private builders. These have continued some two weeks, and though now the workmen have in most instances been satisfied, yet the completion of some vessels will be put off several weeks, from the necessity of waiting for machinery, &c. The hindrance to Government by these strikes may be seen by the following list, not entirely complete, of vessels which have been compelled to await the good nature of the workmen:

R. R. Cuyler, steamer, ready in two weeks, if machinery will permit; *Augusta*, steamer, machinery backward; *Magnolia*; *Honey-suckle*, tug-boat, hull ready probably in two weeks; *Brooklyn*, steamer, ready in four weeks probably; *Rachel Seaman*, schooner, ready in one week probably; *Merrimac*, steamer, machinery backward; *Sweet Briar*, tug-boat, machinery backward; *Hydrangea*, tug-boat, ready for sea in four weeks probably; *Bienvenue*, steamer, uncertain. A gang of laborers are at work constructing new shot beds in the grass plot on the left of the gate and near the Lyceum. The present beds are found to interfere with the operations of the ship carpenters, who need every space that can possibly be made available. The prow of the *Wampanoag*, the great frigate, rises high over the pump at the upper ship house, and between that house and the lower, in the open air, another vessel of the same class, and made in the same moulds is constructing. The keel is already partially laid. The Naval Retiring Board commenced business again on Monday at the Marine Barracks, having been ordered to re-assemble by Secretary Welles. At present the case of Commodore Porter is before it. The following are the chief officers of the court: Commodore Storer, Com. Stringham, Com. Mervine, and two or three members of the medical profession. The gunboat *Flag*, from Port Royal, arrived on the 13th inst., having in tow the prize steamer *Herald*. The *Flag* has since sailed for Boston. The *Newbern*, supply steamer, arrived on Friday, 13th inst., from the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. She sailed again on the 17th inst. The *Sassacus*, double-ender, whose trial trip was recently completed, sailed on the 16th inst. An alarm of fire was rung on Tuesday night, the mould into which melted iron was being run having become overheated. No damage was done to any amount. We understand, however, that it will be made the occasion of recommending to the proper authorities that moulds be hereafter made of fire-proof material, and in this way the slight mishap may result in additional security in Government workshops.

BOSTON NAVY YARD.

The workmen at this Yard resumed work on the 16th inst., after a delay of five days. Payments for the month of September commenced the same morning, and had much influence in inducing a return to work in good feeling. Notwithstanding an order had been received at the Yard to discharge fifteen per cent. of the workmen, events have since transpired which will probably cause it to be revoked. The two new sloops-of-war, the *Ammonoosuc* and *Pompanoone*, will take at least six months to build, and three more will be required to supply the machinery. They will be 345 feet in length, of 3,000 tons burthen, and draw about 16½ feet of water. The gearing of the engines will communicate double their speed to the propeller. The new iron-clad, to be called the *Quinsigamond*, will have two turrets, be 332½ feet in length, with a 50-feet beam and a depth of 18½ feet, and of 3,200 tons burthen. The iron-clad *Monadnock*, which is also building at the Yard, is progressing quite rapidly, and workmen are now engaged in putting the machinery aboard. Two additional sloops-of-war, smaller than the *Ammonoosuc* and *Pompanoone*, will also be built immediately. They will be 260 feet in length, 40 feet wide, and 17 feet deep, and 2,000 tons each. The *Hendrik Hudson* has been taken from the dry-dock, and will sail in a few days. The *Ticonderoga* will be ready for sea in a few weeks; also the *Queen* and the *Pequot*. The latter has received all her equipments, and all her officers have reported for duty. The *Pequot* is of 503 tons measurement, and carries a powerful battery. The gunboat *Western World* is still lying at the dock undergoing repairs. Entire new boilers are being placed on board of her, and her engines are also being overhauled. She will not be ready for service until Spring. The gunboat *Yankee* is nearly ready for sailing again. She has been furnished with a new boiler, and in other respects improved, both in appearance and effectiveness. The gallant little *Yankee* has been in service on the Potomac for nearly two years, and has rendered valuable aid to the Government in breaking up the contraband trade between Virginia and Maryland. Her appearance again on her station will be hailed with satisfaction by the officers and crews of the Potomac flotilla. The repairs on the gunboat *Matthew Vassar* are nearly completed, and she will be ready for service in the course of a week. The tug-boat *Ella* is still lying at the wharf.

WASHINGTON NAVY YARD.

The strike of the colored laborers employed in the anchor shop has been settled by putting white men in their places. The shop is again in full blast. The arrivals at the Yard this week were as follows:—*Gunboats Tensee*, of the Potomac flotilla, *Fusilier* and *Freedom*, all for repairs to boiler; prize schooner *Alma*, captured in the lower Potomac while attempting to violate the blockade; iron-clad *Savannah*, from the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, for repairs, and the supply steamer *Baltimore*, from the same station, for supplies. Great activity continues in the ordnance department, and immense munitions of all kinds are being sent to the several blockading squadrons, especially to Charleston.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

The captured blockade runner *Margaret and Jessie* has been purchased by the Government.

The U. S. steamer *Ashland*, from Hilton Head on Sunday, spoke side-wheel steamer *Keystone State*, 13, in lat. 34°, lon. 37°, steering Southwest.

The steamer *Alma*, laden with salt and liquor, captured while attempting to run into Doboy Sound, Fla., has arrived at Fortress Monroe, in charge of a prize crew.

The U. S. steamer *Granite City* captured on the 27th of October off Matagorda, Texas, the *Anita*, with a cargo of cotton valued at \$100,000. The steamer *Ella* and *Anna*, which was captured off Wilmington by the U. S. gunboat *Nippon*, has arrived at Boston.

The Monitor battery *Camanche*, built by Secor & Co., Jersey City, has arrived in San Francisco, after a passage of one hundred and sixty days from this port. She was shipped from here in the ship *Aquila*, and will be put together at the Mare Island Navy Yard.

ADMIRAL Dahlgren, under date of November 6th, reports the capture off Morrell's Inlet, of the schooner *Rover*, a vessel of about fifty tons, and formerly a Charleston pilot boat. Upon examination she was found to be loaded with a full cargo of cotton.

The Navy Department has received information of another capture off Wilmington, particulars of which have not yet come to hand. This is about the last port to close up, and many a blockade-runner will be captured off there the coming winter.

The U. S. gunboat *Saginaw*, Captain Hopkins, sailed from Panama on the 30th ult., on a cruise along the coast of Central America. The U. S. sloop-of-war *Cyane*, Captain F. Smith, arrived in the bay of Panama from San Francisco on the 6th.

ORDERS have been issued to the Commandants of the navy yards to reduce the labor employed fifteen per cent. in view of the delay arising in the progress of the machinery construction for the new vessels, in consequence of the existing strike and suspension of work by the machinists heretofore employed upon Government work.

The U. S. steam frigate *Niagara* is still at anchor in Gloucester, Mass. A number of excellent men have been obtained from the fishing fleet, and a recruiting office has been opened in the town, under the charge of two residents who are familiar with sailors. This enterprise promises to be very successful.

One of the *Catskill's* boats, while on picket lately, cut away four of the barrel buoys which support the first line of rebel obstructions in the channel, between Sumter and Moultrie. They are large, heavy casks, thickly tarred, and anchored in groups of three or four together, at intervals across the channel. They support a heavy hawser to which is suspended substantial nets, designed to foul the propellers of the monitors.

Is the Monitor *Patapsco*, recently, one of the cartridges for her rifle gun accidentally exploded while being rammed home. Fortunately the result was not as disastrous as might have been expected. No damage was done to the guns, the turret or its machinery. Two men who were handling the cartridge when it exploded were blown to pieces, their remains being scarcely distinguishable. All the others were thrown from their feet and stunned, more or less, but not seriously injured. Lieutenant Bunce was rendered senseless and deaf for several hours.

Two of the *Tacoma* pirates who escaped from Fort Warren last August have never been accounted for. It now appears that these two men made their way to Swanscot in a wherry, where they stole the sloop yacht *Una*, about ten tons, belonging to Joseph Bertram, Esq., of Salem. With her they made their way to St. John, N. B., giving away the yacht to a fisherman who assisted them. At St. John they were cordially received by our blue-nose enemies, and furnished with a passage to Liverpool. Mr. Bertram recovered his yacht (or what was left of her), and sold her at auction in St. John last week for about one-tenth of her value.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

Lieutenant Commander Wm. M. Gamble, to special duty at New York.

Lieutenant Commander John Madigan, to temporary ordnance duty at the Boston Navy Yard.

Lieutenant Commander Edward Barrett, to command the steamer *Massasoit*.

Lieutenant Commander Wm. D. Whiting, to command the schoolship *Savannah*, vice Lieutenant Commander Edward Barrett, detached.

Lieutenant Joshua Bishop, ordered to the *Tuscarora*.

Lieutenant C. S. McDonough, to the receiving ship at New York.

Assistant Paymaster H. M. Hanna, to the *Agawam*.

Second Assistant Engineer Charles E. DeValin, to the *Watertail*.

Lieutenants A. N. Mitchell, to the steamer *Mettawesett*.

Surgeon James Laws, to the school-ship *Savannah*.

Surgeon Henry F. McSherry, to the Naval Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.

Assistant Paymaster Henry A. Strong, to the steamer *Seabago*.

Third Assistant Engineer John A. Scott, to examination.

Ensign O. A. Batcheller, to temporary duty on the *Sassacus*, and on arrival at New Orleans to duty in the West Gulf Blockading Squadron.

Boatswain Peter A. Chason and Carpenter Ebenezer Thompson, to the steamer *Fort Jackson*.

DETACHED.

Captain George F. Emmons, from duty as Fleet Captain of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron, and ordered North.

Lieutenant Commander T. S. Fillebrown, from the Navy Yard, New York, and ordered to command the *Chenango*.

Lieutenant Commander John Irwin, from ordnance duty at Boston, and ordered to temporary ordnance duty at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia.

Lieutenant Commander Montgomery Sicard, from ordnance duty, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the *Ticonderoga*.

Lieutenant Commander B. B. Taylor, from the command of the *Ticonderoga*, and ordered to command the *Kanawha*.

Lieutenant Commander Wm. K. Mayo, from the command of the *Kanawha*, and ordered to return North.

Commander N. B. Harrison, from the command of the *Minnesota*, and awaiting orders.

Second Assistant Engineer Albert Murray and Third Assistant Engineer D. A. Sawyer, from the *Sangamon* and ordered to the *Mackinaw*.

Second Assistant Engineer E. D. Leavitt, Jr., and Third Assistants James M. Clark and James G. Letting, from the *Mackinaw* and ordered to the *Sangamon*.

Second Assistant Engineer John Wilson, from special duty at New York, and ordered to the *Hartford*.

Third Assistant Engineer Albert K. Fulton, from the *Hartford*, and ordered to special duty at New York.

Assistant Paymaster Horatio L. Wait, from the *Mary Sanford*, and ordered to the steamer *Philadelphia*.

Ensign Marston Niles, from the *Minnesota*, and ordered to the *Sacramento*.

Gunner Thomas Stewart, from the receiving ship at Boston, and ordered to the *Cyane*, Pacific Squadron.

Gunner Cornelius Dugan, from the *Cyane*, and ordered to return to New York.

PROMOTED.

Second Lieutenants Norval L. Nokes and E. B. Sturges, to be First Lieutenants in the Marine Corps.

First Assistant Engineer J. H. Long, to be Chief Engineer.

RESIGNED.

J. Otis Burt has resigned his commission as an Assistant Surgeon. Rev. James A. Coleman has resigned his commission as Chaplain.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

Acting Master John D. Childs, to the *Acacia*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster H. S. Bradford, to the *Seabago*.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer Rodney Nichols, to the *Chenango*.

Acting Master's Mate James Buck, to the *Alleghany*.

Acting Master's Mate Henry S. Bolles, to the *Acacia*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster T. H. Haskell, to the *Vermont*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster Albert W. Bacon, to the *Galena*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster Griswold L. Ely, to the *Release*.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer James Day, to the *Fort Jackson*.

Acting Master Henry R. Billings, to the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

Acting Assistant Paymaster William S. Creevey, to the *Patapsco*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster George C. Bissell, to the *Mary Sanford*.

DETACHED.

Acting Assistant Paymaster E. St. C. Clarke, from the *Release* and ordered North to settle his accounts.

Acting Volunteer Lieutenant George Wigggin, from the command of the *Tennessee* and granted one month's leave of absence.

Acting Master Frank Smith, from the command of the *Bienville* and ordered to command the *Alabama*.

Acting Ensign William Betts, from the *Eureka* and ordered to the *Connemara*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster Frank K. Moore, from the *Vermont* and ordered to settle his accounts.

Acting Master's Mate John Bowman, from the *Dawn* and ordered to the *Connemara*.

Acting Master Samuel Very, Jr., from the *Pensacola* and ordered to the *North Carolina*.

Acting Master W. R. Hathaway, from the *Commodore Jones* and awaiting orders.

Acting Assistant Surgeon S. B. Kenney, from the *North Carolina* and ordered to the *Galena*.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Richard H. Greene, from the *Ohio* and ordered to the *State of Georgia*.

Acting Assistant Paymaster George S. Sproston, from the Mississippi Squadron and granted permission to visit Washington, D. C.

Acting Assistant Paymaster O. F. Browning, from the *A. Houghton* and ordered North to settle his accounts.

Acting Ensign Horace Dexter, from the *Iroquois* and ordered to the *Winona*.

Acting Ensign Henry M. Pierce, from the Naval Battery, Seavey's Island, and ordered to the *Augusta*.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer Charles Wines, from the *Fort Jackson* and ordered to the *Sacramento*.

APPOINTED.

Thomas M. Caustand, Acting First Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Oscoda*.

Charles S. Fowler, Acting Third Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Snowdrop*.

William J. Dunham and Alexander V. Hawley, Acting Third Assistant Engineers and ordered to the *Acacia*.

Charles H. Bartram and Alonso D. Wood, Acting Third Assistant Engineers and ordered to the *Tacoma*.

Harvey Clapp, Acting Third Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Ascaso*.

Elijah H. Tucker, Acting Third Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Snowdrop*.

Emmanuel R. Davison, Acting Ensign and ordered to the *Pequot*.

Hosen A. Tinkham and John O. Ellis, Acting Ensigns.

Peyton H. Randolph and John W. Lator, Acting Ensigns.

James H. Neely, Acting Master's Mate and ordered to Rear-Admiral D. D. Porter.

William Power, Acting Master.

H. A. Harmon and John J. Perkins, Acting Ensigns.

Walter S. Thomas, George H. Williamson and Charles Smith, Acting Master's Mates.

Thomas Divine, Warren Ewen and John B. Lowell, Acting First Assistant Engineers.

John Whitaker, Peter B. Robinson, John B. Safford, Simon Rockefellow, John K. Hickey, and Martin V. B. Darling, Acting Second Assistant Engineers.

Win. E. Sheppard, Acting Second Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Chenango*.

James K. Wright, Acting Third Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Acacia*.

James D. Averill, Acting Third Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Dawn*.

Henry E. Savoy, Acting Third Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Sacramento*.

O. W. Clapp, Acting Master's Mate and ordered to the *Quaker City*.

Roger E. Perkins, Acting Assistant Paymaster.

Franklin Nickerson, Acting Assistant Surgeon, and ordered to the Receiving Ship *Ohio*.

James E. Fox, Acting First Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Fort Jackson*.

Thomas D. Crosby, Acting Second Assistant Engineer and ordered to the *Acacia*.

John White and Francis F. Sullivan, Acting Third Assistant Engineers and ordered to the *Chenango*.

PROMOTED.

John A. Johnstone, of the *Octorara*, to the grade of Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, for capturing the English steamer *John Williams*.

Acting Master Abraham N. Gould, of the *Honduras*, to the grade of Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, for skill and vigilance in capturing the English blockade runner *Mail*.

Acting Master Thomas H. Harris, to the grade of Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, for gallant conduct while in command of the expedition which destroyed the blockade runners *Scottish Chief* and *Kate Date*, on the Hillsboro River, Florida.

Acting Ensign Courtland P. Williams, to Acting Master.

Acting Master Joseph B. Break, to the grade of Acting Volunteer Lieutenant, for skill and vigilance in capturing the English blockade runner *Ella* and *Annie*.

CONFIRMED.

The appointments of the following officers have been confirmed:—

Acting Assistant Surgeon George D. Harris.

Acting Ensign Ezra L. Robbins, William J. Romme, Hosea A. Tinkham, Emanuel R. Davis and John D. Ellis.

Acting

ARMY PRINTING.—The first introduction of the printing press in the Army was by Captain H. NEFF, 19th Regt. P. V.—3 months (subsequently 90th Regt. P. V.—3 years), April 18, 1861. This press printed a little paper called the *National Guard*. The press continued to follow this regiment through all its marches and trials, up to August, 1862, where, on General Pope's retreat, for want of transportation, it was destroyed, to prevent its falling into the hands of the rebels.

In October following we hear of a press in one of the Massachusetts regiments in the Army of the Potomac. A weekly paper, published by them, fell into our hands; further than this we have no record.

When the Army of the Potomac moved on to Manassas, Captain IRWIN had a press in operation at the Headquarters of the Army of the Potomac. This press, type, etc., was buried on the Peninsula in the seven days retreat.

The first introduction of the press in the hospitals was in October, 1862, although the publication of a paper did not begin until Feb. 14th, following. The press is now in operation in Carver Hospital, as well as many others.

Printing is also carried on in the Navy to a considerable extent of late. On the Flagship *Minnesota*, at Fortress Monroe, the U. S. bark *Hannibal*, off Charleston, and probably others to us unknown.

The 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry, at Yorktown, published a paper called *The Cavalier*. This paper has been in operation over a year.—*Historical Magazine*.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of marriages and deaths should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

SWANS—LYON.—In Charlestown, Mass., on Tuesday, 10th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Ellis, Lieutenant THOMAS L. SWANSON, U. S. Navy, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of Dr. Henry Lyon, of that city.

SMITH—WOODS.—On the 16th instant, by the Rev. Benjamin Watson, RICHARD PENN SMITH, Colonel of the Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Volunteers (California Regiment), to Miss LUCY P. WOODS, formerly of Pittsburgh.

DIED.

MIDDLETON.—On Monday morning, the 16th instant, HELEN E., wife of Dr. J. V. D. MIDDLETON, U. S. Army, and daughter of David H. Burr, Esq., of Washington, D. C., aged 31 years.

JARDEN.—Suddenly, on the 9th instant, at Fort Thayer, Washington, D. C., Captain JOHN S. JARDEN, One-Hundred-and-Twelfth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, aged 31 years.

FEDERICKS.—At Greenfield Hill, Conn., on Sunday, November 8, Captain JAMES P. FEDERICKS, of Brooklyn, and recently of the Army of the Potomac.

WHITEHEAD.—At Nashville, Tenn., on Monday, Nov. 9, OTIS A. WHITEHEAD, Major in the U. S. Volunteer service, and son of the Rev. Charles Whitehead, in the 28th year of his age.

TUTTLE.—In Port Hudson, La., 16th ult., Quartermaster EDWIN TUTTLE, 9th Regiment Corps d'Afrique.

HODGSON.—On the 8th instant, of wounds received on the 7th instant, at the battle of Rapahannock Station, Captain T. H. M. HODGSON, of Company B, One Hundred-and-Nine Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, aged 47 years.

OBITUARY.

Surgeon FRANK M. McCLELLAN.

Died, Long Island, Thursday, 12th inst., from disease contracted while in service in North Carolina, Surgeon FRANK M. McCLELLAN, aged 44, late of Marine Artillery, and at this time Surgeon of the 13th Regiment Artillery, N. Y. Volunteers. His loss will be severely felt by his commanding officers and all who knew him. His entire devotion to his duties, and many acts of kindness to the sick and suffering at Roanoke Island, endeared him much to all who received his services; while to the officers and other friends, his genial manners, intelligence and generosity of heart made him ever a beloved friend and pleasant companion.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Secretary of War.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton—2d floor War Department.

General-in-Chief.

Major General H. W. Halleck—cor. F and 17th streets.

Adjutant General.

Brigadier General L. Thomas—War Department.

Judges Advocate.

Colonel Joseph Holt, Judge Advocate General Winder's Building, corner F and 17th streets.

Major L. C. Turner, Judge Advocate, Department of Washington, A. G.—533 17th street.

Theophilus Gaines, Major and Judge Advocate, 2d Army Corps—cor. 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue.

Solicitor of the War Department.

Hon. William Whiting—Rooms Nos. 29 and 31, War Department.

Inspector General's Department.

Colonel D. B. Sackett—212 G street.

Signal Officer of the Army.

Captain Albert J. Myer—158 F street.

Povost Marshal General.

Colonel James B. Fry—War Department.

Quartermaster's Department.

Brigadier General M. C. Meigs, Quartermaster General, office Winder's Building, corner F and 17th streets.

Brigadier General D. H. Buckner, Deputy Quartermaster-General—205 G street.

Captain ALFRED L. Hartz, Chief Assistant Quartermaster—office corner F and 21st streets.

Lieutenant Colonel Elias M. Greene, Chief Quartermaster Department of Washington—corner 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue.

Major M. S. Miller Post Quartermaster—office, 197 F street.

Captain D. G. Thomas, Military Store Keeper—Art Union Building, corner 17th street and Pennsylvania avenue.

Subsistence Department.

Brigadier General Joseph P. Taylor, Commissary General—La Fayette square, corner H street and Jackson Place.

Captain Amos Beckwith, Depot Commissary—225 G street.

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Brigadier-General William A. Hammond, Surgeon-General—corner 15th street and Pennsylvania avenue.

Surgeon R. C. Abbott, Medical Director, Department of Washington—132 Pennsylvania avenue.

Surgeon Dr. Morris, to attend officers of the regular Army—corner of 14th and G streets.

Surgeon C. H. Crane, U. S. Army, Acting Assistant Surgeon General.

H. Johnson, Military Store Keeper, Acting Medical Purveyor—office F street, between 17th and 18th streets.

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Chief Clerk E. H. Brooke, Examination of Accounts—211 15th street.

Major Hutchins—Discharge Office of all officers, corner F and 15th streets.

Major Rochester—Discharge Office of all officers—corner F and 15th streets.

Major Potter—Discharge office of regulars, corner F and 15th streets.

Major Taylor—Discharge Office of volunteer soldiers, corner F and 15th street and New York avenue.

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Brigadier General George D. Ramsay, Chief-Oifice, Winder's Building, corner F and 17th streets.

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Major General S. P. Heintzelman, Commanding Department—Headquarters, cor. 15th street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Brigadier General J. H. Martindale, Military Governor—cor. 15th and I Streets.

Lieutenant Colonel Joseph S. Conrad, Discharge Office for Department—132 Pennsylvania avenue.

Capt. H. B. Todd, Provost Marshal, District of Washington corner 19th and I Streets.

Defences of Washington.

Brigadier-General J. G. Barnard, Chief Engineer—office northwest corner Pennsylvania avenue and 19th streets.

Miscellaneous.

Colonel William Hoffman, Commissary General of Prisoners—148 F street, corner of 20th street.

Colonel D. C. McCallum, Superintendent of Military Railroads—230 G street, near 17th street.

Brigadier General William F. Barry, Chief of Artillery—153 17th street.

Major-General George Stoneman, in charge of Cavalry Bureau—Office, 374 H street, Demeneux or Chain Buildings—corner H and Clay Wood, Commissary of Musters—corner 19th and G streets.

Captain C. W. Foster, Assistant Adjutant General of Colored Bureau—381 17th street, opposite War Department.

Under General Orders No. 144, a Board is now in session at No. 469 14th street, Washington. Applicants for examination for commissions in colored regiments are referred to the General Order—No. 144—for information how to get admission to appear before it. Maj. Genl. Silas Casey is President of the Board.

The Committee of which Brigadier Genl. Ricketts is President, in session daily except Sunday s. in a frame building on the space between 18th and 19th streets, north side of Pennsylvania avenue, for the examination of cases of officers published for dismissal.

A Board to examine officers of the Regular Army who may be ordered before it, with a view to placing them on the retired list, is in session at Wilmington, Delaware. Major General McDowell is President of this Board.

All applications by officers for leaves of absence, or by their dependents for furloughs, must be made, if the applicant is rightfully within the lines of the department, to Major General Heintzelman, at the head quarters, Department of Washington, corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Fifteenth-and-a-half street.

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Gustavus V. Fox, Asst. Sec'y,

William Faxon, Chief Clerk.

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Bureau of Equipment and Recruiting.

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Acting Rear-Admiral Theodorus Bailey, commanding East Gulf blockading squadron.

Acting Rear-Admiral Samuel Phillips Lee, commanding North Atlantic blockading squadron, Hampton Roads.

Rear-Admiral John A. Dahlgren, commanding South Atlantic blockading squadron.

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Capt. James M. Gillis, Superintendent of Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C.

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From the numerous expressions of approval the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL has awakened in the Army we select the following:

From Major-General GEORGE G. MEADE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, §
September 14th, 1863.

DEAR Sir.—I have received several numbers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and have noted with satisfaction the evidence they bear of the promise of usefulness of this journal. It affords me sincere pleasure to add my contribution to its maintenance, and I therefore herewith enclose the annual subscription, \$5.

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NOVEMBER 21, 1863.

ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

207

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It provides Primary, Scientific, Collegiate and Mil-
itary Departments of Study, all of which are now in
operation, under thoroughly competent Professors.
The accommodations for Cadets are of the most ap-
proved kind. The discipline is strictly military. Care-
ful attention is paid to the moral and religious instruc-
tion of Cadets. The Academy is furnished by the
State with a Battery of Brass Guns for the Artillery
Drill. Circulars apply to Col. THEODORE HYATT,
President Pennsylvania Military Academy,
West Chester, Pa.

**SALE OF LANDS
FOR
UNPAID DIRECT TAXES IN INSUR-
RECTIONARY DISTRICTS.**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Notice is hereby given that the several Tracts or
Lots of Land situated in the State of South Carolina,
hereinafter described, have become forfeited to the
United States, by reason of the non-payment of the
direct taxes charged thereon, under the act entitled
“An act to provide increased revenue from imports,
to pay interest on the public debt, and for other pur-
poses,” approved August 5, 1861, and an act entitled
“An act for the collection of direct taxes in insur-
rectionary districts within the United States, and for other
purposes,” approved June 7, 1862, and that the
same will be sold at public auction, on TUESDAY, De-
cember 1, 1863, at 1 o'clock P.M. of that day, at the
Custom-House building, at Port Royal, Hilton Head
Island, St. Luke's Parish, Beaufort District, and State
of South Carolina.

The following is a description of said lands forfeit-
ed as aforesaid, together with the valuation of the
same, and the amount of the quota of said tax and
penalty charged upon each of said Tracts or Lots of
Land respectively:

**HILTON HEAD Island, St. Luke's Parish, Beaufort
District, South Carolina.**

No. 1. “*The Point*,” including “Bob Island,” said
to be, or to have been owned by Wm. Elliott; bound-
ed north and northeast by Broad River, southeast
and south by Fish Island, southwest by Seabrook,
and northwest by Skull Creek.

No. 2. “*Pine Lands*,” owner or owners unknown;
bounded by “The Point,” “Fish Hall,” “Grass
Lawn,” “Cherry Hill,” “Marshland,” “Honey Horn,”
“Fairfield,” “Cotton Hope,” and “Seabrook.”

No. 3. “*Fish Hall*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by General Drayton; bounded northeast by
Broad River, southeast by Coggins Point and Spring-
field, southwest by Grass Lawn, northwest and north-
by the “Point.”

No. 4. “*Coggins Point*” and “*Springfield*,” said to
be, or to have been owned by Wm. Pope; bounded
northeast by Broad River, southeast by the Atlantic
Ocean, southwest by Grass Lawn, and northwest by
the “Point.”

No. 5. “*Grass Lawn*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Richard Pope; bounded northeast by
Springfield and Fish Hall, northwest by Pine Lands,
southwest by Cherry Hill and Matthew’s Land, some-
times called “Number Four,” and southeast by the
Atlantic Ocean.

No. 6. “*Matthew’s Land*,” sometimes called “Num-
ber Four,” said to be, or to have been owned by
Frank Pope; bounded northeast by Grass Lawn,
southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, southwest by Marsh-
land and Chaplin, northwest by Cherry Hill.

No. 7. “*Cherry Hill*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Mrs. Pope; bounded northeast by Grass
Lawn, southeast by Matthew’s Land, sometimes
called “Number Four,” southwest by Marshland,
and northwest by Pine Lands.

No. 8. “*Marshland and Chaplin*,” said to be, or to
have been owned by Jas. Wells; bounded northeast
by Cherry Hill and Matthew’s Land, sometimes called
“Number Four,” southeast by the Atlantic Ocean,
northwest by Pine Lands, and southwest by Gard-
ner and Lemington.

No. 9. “*Gardner*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Stoney; bounded northeast by Marshland,
southeast by Broad Creek, southwest by Otter Hole
and northwest by Honey Horn.

No. 10. “*Lemington*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Joseph Pope; bounded northeast by Chap-
lin, southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, southwest by
Hill Place, and northwest by Broad Creek.

No. 11. “*Hill Place*,” said to be, or to have been
lands of Samuel Lawton; bounded northeast by Le-
mington, southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, southwest
by Brickyard, and northwest by Broad Creek.

No. 12. “*Brickyard*,” said to be, or to have been
lands of Finklin; bounded northeast by Hill Place,
southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, southwest by Pos-
sum Point, and northwest by Broad Creek.

No. 13. “*Possum Point*,” said to be, or to have been
lands of Wells; bounded northeast by Brickyard,
southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, southwest and south-
by Point Comfort, and northwest by Broad Creek.

No. 14. “*Point Comfort*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Wm. Pope and by Baynard; bounded
northeast and north by Possum Point, southeast by
the Atlantic Ocean, south and southwest by Lawton
Place, and north and northwest by Broad Creek.

No. 15. “*Lawton Place*,” said to be, or to have been
lands of Mrs. Lawton; bounded north and northeast
by Point Comfort, southeast by the Atlantic Ocean,
south and southwest by Bradlock’s Point, and north-
west by Broad Creek and Calibogue Sound.

No. 16. “*Bradlock’s Point*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Baynard, and formerly by John
Stoney; bounded north and northeast by Lawton
Place, southeast and south by the Atlantic Ocean,
west and northwest by Calibogue Sound.

No. 17. “*Spanish Wells*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Baynard; bounded north by a creek called by
some “Muddy Creek,” letting in east from Mackay’s Creek,
opposite the mouth of May River, easterly by Muddy
Creek Place, southerly by Broad Creek, and west by
Calibogue Sound, or as sometimes called, “Span-
ish Wells River.”

No. 18. “*Muddy Creek Place*,” said to be, or to have been
owned by Baynard; bounded north by the creek called by
some “Muddy Creek,” easterly by Otter Hole, south-
erly by Broad Creek, and westerly by Spanish Wells.

No. 19. “*Oller Hole*,” said to be, or to have been
land of Stuart, and formerly of Stoney; bounded
northerly by Honey Horn, easterly by Gardner, south-
erly by Broad Creek, and westerly by Muddy Creek.

No. 20. “*Honey Horn*,” said to be, or to have been
Graham’s, and formerly Stoney’s; bounded northerly
by Jarvis Creek, Fairfield, and Pine Lands, northeast
and easterly by Seabrook, Pine Lands and Marshland,
southerly by Otter Hole and Gardner, and westerly
by marshes extending to Mackay’s Creek.

No. 21. “*Jenkins’ Island*,” including “Hog Island,”
said to be, or to have been Frank Pope’s island;
bounded north by Skull Creek, east by Fairfield,
south by Jarvis Creek, and west by Mackay’s Creek.

No. 22. “*Fairfield*,” said to have been the planta-
tion of Dr. George Stoney; bounded northwest by
Skull Creek, northeast and north by Cotton Hope,
southerly by Honey Horn, westerly by Jenkins’ Is-
land.

No. 23. “*Cotton Hope*,” said to be, or to have been
William Pope’s; bounded northwest by Skull Creek,
northeast by Seabrook, southerly and southwest by
the Point, southeast by Pine Lands, and southwest by
Cotton Hope and Honey Horn.

“*Pinckney Island*,” St. Luke’s Parish, Beaufort
District, South Carolina; bounded west and north-
west by Mackay’s Creek, northeast by Broad River,
southeast by Skull Creek.

“*Port Royal*, October 31, 1863.

PROPOSALS.

QUARTERMASTER'S OFFICE U. S. M. CORPS, {

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21, 1863.

SEALED PROPOSALS, for each class separately
will be received at this office until 2 o'clock P.M., of
the 2d day of December next, for furnishing to the U.S.
Marine Corps, during the year 1864, the following sup-
plies, to be delivered at the office of the Assistant
Quartermaster of the Corps, Philadelphia, Penn., free
of charge to the United States, in such quantities as
may from time to time be required, viz.—

CLASS NO. 1.

14,000 yards Sky Blue Kearsey, all wool, free from
hair, 54 inches wide, to weigh 22 ounces to the
yard, (Indigo wool dyed).

6,000 yards Dark Blue Kearsey, all wool free from
hair, 54 inches wide, to weigh 22 ounces to the
yard, (Indigo wool dyed).

3,500 yards Dark Blue Twilled Cloth, all wool, for
uniform coats, (Indigo wool dyed), 54 inches
wide, to weigh 22 ounces to the yard.

150 yards Scarlet Cloth, all wool, (cochineal-dyed),
54 inches wide, to weigh 16 ounces per yard.

CLASS NO. 2.

6,000 yards of 6-4 Dark Blue Flannel for oversacks,
all wool, (Indigo wool dyed) 54 inches wide, to
weigh 13 ounces per yard.

18,000 yards of 3-4 Park Blue Flannel, for shirts, all
wool, (Indigo wool dyed) 27 inches wide, to
weigh 6½ ounces per yard.

CLASS NO. 4.

1,000 Grey Blankets, all wool, to weigh 4 pounds
each, with letters “U. S. M.” in black, 4 inches
long, in the centre; to be 7 feet long and 5 feet
wide, and free from grease.

7,000 pair of Woolen Socks, three sizes, properly
made of good fleece wool, with double and
twisted yarn, to weigh 3 pounds per dozen
pairs, free from grease.

CLASS NO. 3.

6,000 yards White Linen, for pants, 80 inches wide, to
weigh 13 ounces per yard.

10,000 yards White Linen for Shirts, 80 inches wide,
to weigh eleven ounces per yard.

16,000 yards Canton Flannel for Drawers, 27 inches
wide, to weigh 7 ounces per yard.

CLASS NO. 5.

600 gross Coat Buttons, (eagle).

200 gross Jacket Buttons (eagle).

100 gross Vest Buttons (eagle).

1,000 pairs Yellow Metal Crescents and Scale Shapes.

150 sets Epaulette Bullion for Sergeants and Co-
porals.

1,400 sets Epaulette Bullion for privates.

50 Red Worsted Sashes.

5,000 yards Yellow Binding.

4,000 yards of Red Cord.

100 Swords for Sergeants.

50 Swords for Musicians.

40 Drums, tenor, complete.

150 Batter Drum Heads.

30 Snare Drum Heads.

100 Drum Cords.

50 sets of Drum Snare.

30 Boxwood “B” Fifes.

10,000 pairs Army Boots, infantry pattern.

CLASS NO. 7.

1,200 Cartridge Boxes.

1,200 Bayonet Scabbards.

1,200 Percussion Cap Pouches.

1,200 Cartridge Box Belts.

1,200 Bayonet Belts.

1,200 Waist Belts.

1,200 Breast Plates.

200 Sword Frogs.

CLASS NO. 8.

1,400 Knapsacks.

600 Haversacks.

600 Canteens.

400 Musket Sling.

CLASS NO. 9.

For making and trimming the following article
viz:

Watch coats, sergeants’, corporals’, musicians’ and
privates’ uniform and fatigue coats, woolen and
linen pants, flannel and linen shirts, drawers, flannel sack,
and red and blue jackets for boys.

The above-mentioned articles must conform in all
respects to the sealed standard patterns in the office of
the Quartermaster Marine Corps, Marine Barracks,
Washington, D. C., Assistant Quartermaster’s Office
Marine Corps, No. 1,220 Spruce street, Philadelphia;
and at the Marine Stations, Brooklyn, New York, and
Boston, Massachusetts, where they can be examined.

And whenever the articles named above, or any
portion of them, shall be considered as not fully con-
forming to samples, they will be rejected, and

**SCHUYLER, HARTLEY
AND GRAHAM,**

19 MAIDEN LANE AND 22 JOHN STREET,
NEW YORK.

81 RUE DU CHATEAU D'EAU, PARIS, AND
SANDS STREET, BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

Dealers in ARMS, PISTOLS, and MILITARY GOODS.
A general assortment of PRESENTATION ARTICLES,
Swords, Sashes, Spurs, Sword Knots, Gold Embroidered Belts, Solid Silver Spurs, Gauntlets, Field Glasses, and Embroideries.

PRESIDENTIAL SWORDS of original designs constantly on hand, and made to order.

A full assortment of FIELD GLASSES. Horse equipments of every description.

A. M. BININGER & CO.,
(ESTABLISHED 1778.)

IMPORTERS OF

BRANDIES, WINES, &c.

375 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK.

Particular attention paid to putting up all kinds of

Liquors for

HOSPITALS, ARMY AND NAVY PURPOSES.

**WARNOCK & CO.,
ARMY AND NAVY
HATS, CAPS,
EQUIPMENTS,**

AND EMBROIDERIES,
as per Regulation,
519 BROADWAY.

ST. NICHOLAS HOTEL. NEW YORK.

A complete assortment of Ladies' Fine Furs.

ELECTION NOTICE.

PURSUANT TO THE
PROVISIONS OF THE LAWS
OF THIS STATE.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, by the COMMON COUNCIL of the CITY of NEW YORK, that an ELECTION will be held in the several ELECTION DISTRICTS of the various Wards of said City on the

FIRST TUESDAY of DECEMBER next, (being the FIRST DAY of DECEMBER, 1863.)

The Polls will be held at the places which have been designated by the Common Council as the places at which Elections shall be held in said Districts during the present year, and the polls will be opened at sunrise, and remain open until sunset, when they will be finally closed.

The officers to be voted for at such election, are the following:

A Mayor, in the place of George Odyke.

A Civil Justice, for the First District, comprising the 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th Wards.

A Police Justice, for the First District, comprising the 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th Wards.

A Civil Justice, for the Second District, comprising the 4th, 5th and 14th Wards.

A Civil Justice, for the Third District, comprising the 8th and 9th Wards.

A Police Justice, for the Third District, comprising the 8th and 9th Wards.

A Civil Justice, for the Fourth District, comprising the 10th, 15th and 17th Wards.

A Police Justice, for the Fourth District, comprising the 10th, 15th and 17th Wards.

A Civil Justice for the Fifth District, comprising the 7th, 11th and 13th Wards.

A Police Justice for the Fifth District comprising the 7th, 11th and 13th Wards.

A Civil Justice for the Sixth District, comprising the 18th and 21st Wards.

A Police Justice for the Sixth District, comprising the 18th and 21st Wards.

A Civil Justice for the Seventh District, comprising the 12th, 19th and 22d Wards.

A Police Justice, for the Seventh District, comprising the 12th, 19th and 22d Wards.

A Police Justice, for the Eighth District, comprising the 16th and 20th Wards.

An Alderman in each of the Aldermanic Districts having an even numerical designation, viz.: 2d, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, 14th and 16th.

Six Councilmen in each Senatorial District.

One Commissioner of Common Schools, for each Ward.

One Inspector of Common Schools, for each Ward.

Two Trustees of Common Schools, for each Ward.

By order of the Common Council,

D. T. VALENTINE,

Clerk.

New York, November 12, 1863.

**SMITH'S PATENT
BREECH-LOADING CARBINE.**

The best, simplest, strongest, most accurate and effective Cavalry arm in the service.

Can be fired ten times per minute; will throw a ball over one mile.

Manufactured and for sale by

POULTNEY & TRIMBLE,

Baltimore, Md.

TOMES, SON & MELVAIN,

No. 6 MAIDEN LANE, NEW YORK.

Dealers in everything necessary for the Uniform of the ARMY AND NAVY—Swords, Sashes, Belts, Shoulder-straps, Epaulettes, Laces, Buttons, Fatigue-caps, &c., &c.; also a large and complete assortment of Firearms, Cutlery, Double and Single-bbl. Shot Guns, and Sporting Ammunition in every variety. Sole agents for Heiffer's celebrated Army Razors, Westley Richards' Fowling Pieces and Rifles, Eley's Percussion Caps for revolvers, &c.—Publishers of the "Uniform of U. S. Navy."

E. OWEN & SON,

MILITARY AND NAVAL
MERCHANT TAILORS.

212 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,

Betw. 14th and 15th Sts.,

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(ESTABLISHED IN 1841.)

WALL, STEPHENS & CO.,
322 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Between Ninth and Tenth sts.,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Have always on hand a large stock of MILITARY AND NAVAL CLOTHING, Also, Swords, Sashes, Belts, Epaullettes, Shoulder Straps, Laces, &c., &c. P. S.—As we keep one of the largest STOCK of READY-MADE CLOTHING in the city, we would respectfully solicit a call from Army and Navy Officers. SUTLERS TREATED LIBERALLY.

NEW BREECH-LOADING RIFLE.

BARREL, 24 IN. WEIGHT, ONLY 5 1/2 POUNDS, 44-1000 lbs. CAL. 28 LONG BULLETS TO FOUND.

Warranted superior to any gun in use for Accuracy, Range and Rapidity of discharge. These rifles are now in use in the 7th and 8th Regiments of Kentucky and the 6th Ohio Cavalry.

AUTOMATIC SPRING SADDLE AND BODY HOLSTERS AND COPPER CARTRIDGE BOXES.

Made under letters patent.

We furnish Presentation Swords at 10 per cent. Commission on maker's prices.

Pistols, Swords, Sashes and Ammunition, at wholesale.

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(Over U. S. Express Office), CHICAGO, ILL.

Swords, Revolvers, Rifles, Belts, Sashes, Caps, Hats, Gauntlets, Shoulder Straps, Haversacks, &c., &c.

BUCKSKIN GLOVES in great variety, and REGALIA GOODS.

The largest stock in the city of Chicago, and at lowest prices.

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It contains all the modern improvements, and is one of the best appointed Hotels in the country.

This Hotel is a favorite resort of the officers of the Army and Navy, and for SOLID COMFORT and SUMPTUOUS LIVING is unsurpassed by any in the Northwest.

GAGE & DRAKE, Proprietors.

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(Established 1835.)

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Manufacturer of every description of Military Equipment, Sword Belts, Pistol Holsters, Cartridge Boxes, Bridles, Saddles-Cloths, &c. Medical Saddles-Bags, Chests, Trunks and Valises constantly on hand in great variety. Goods made to order.

All orders by mail promptly filled.

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The above named goods on hand and made to order in elegant style, consisting of

Swords, Epaullettes, Belts, Gauntlets, Shoulder Straps, Spurs, Embroideries, Cords, Laces, Buttons, Bindings.

Silk and Bunting Flags, Guidons and Standards.

MASONIC & ODD FELLOWS REGALIA.

Military and Masonic BOOKS.

Wholesale and Retail by
A. W. POLLARD & CO.,
No. 6 Court st., Boston, Mass.

M. D. WAUD & CO.,

193 Washington street, Boston.

Invite the attention of the Military Public to their complete assortment of all articles, including an entire outfit for ARMY OR NAVY OFFICERS.

The only store in this city exclusively for the sale of Military Goods, Camp Sets, Army Valises, Camp Cots and Stools. Presentation Swords of all descriptions on hand or made to order. Also Wholesale Agents for the Ridgewood Smoking Case and Tobacco.

J. T. SMITH & CO., 343 and 344 Broadway.

Manufacturers of Saddlery and Military Equipments, have opened a Retail Department in connection with their Wholesale establishment, and offer a large and well-selected assortment of

MILITARY SADDLES, BRIDLES, MARTIN-

GALES, SPURS, BITS, BELTS, HAVER-

SACKS, ARMY BLANKETS, &c.

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565 and 567 Broadway, New York.

Manufacturers and Importers of

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FINE PRESENTATION SWORDS constantly on hand, and made to order, which, in style of finish, and elegance of design, are unsurpassed. REGULATION SWORDS for the Army and Navy. EPAULETTES, SASHES, BELTS, EMBROIDERY, &c. REGIMENTAL STANDARDS, NATIONAL ENSIGNS, GUIDONS and FLAGS, OF EVERY STYLE. Designs furnished, and Orders promptly executed.

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Staff, Field, and Line Officers' Equipment, on hand, or made to order in an elegant style.

CONSISTING OF

Sashes, Belts, Cords, Swords, Spurs, Buttons, Sword Knots, Epaullettes, Bindings, Shoulder Straps, Facing Cloths, COLT'S ARMY AND NAVY REVOLVERS.

Navy and Marine Officers supplied with everything for their Equipment, such as Chapeaux Caps, Passants, Epaullettes, Swords, Belts, &c. Also, Silk and Bunting Flags, Guidons, Standards, etc., etc.

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DEPOT OF GENERAL EQUIPMENT,

Comprising everything pertaining to the PERSONNEL OR CAMP FURNITURE OF THE SOLDIER. Officers studying the necessities of active service, or the perfection of uniform and material, will do well to examine this large collection of Foreign and Domestic Arms, Uniforms and Miscellaneous Trappings.

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Swords, Sashes, Belts, Passants, and everything necessary for the complete outfit of Army and Navy officers; Banners, Regimental and Company Flags.

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STADERMAN & SHAPTER

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Metal Goods of every description.

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Officers of the Army and Navy, visiting Boston, are respectfully invited to call and examine our stock.

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GEORGE W. SIMONS & BRO., SANSOM STREET HALL, Sansom street, above Sixth, PHILADELPHIA—Manufacturers of Fine Swords of every description, and dealers in every variety of Military Goods, viz.: Sashes, Belts, Sword-knots, Badges, &c. Staff, Field and Line Officers' Swords, for Infantry and Cavalry, also Navy Swords. All our swords tested, and manufactured from all the Celebrated Imported Blades. Blades from Solingen, Damascus & Harrison, of London. Also, all the home fabricants' Blades, Collins', Emerson's and Silvers. Army and Navy Officers and Sutlers supplied by express.

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